

Agriculture - 1933  
Condition of

## Negro Farmers, Leave Rally Here ~~Resolved To Live At Home In '33~~

By E. C. RUSSELL

With thought intent on the "will and woes," common to their occupation, and to this age, hundreds of negro farmers from Central Alabama came by motor and mule power to the annual farmers conference sponsored by County Demonstration Agent J. T. Alexander and home demonstration agent, A. M. Boynton.

Both men and women brought along some specimens of their last year's work. On the platform were placed fine exhibits of corn, potatoes, peanuts, poultry, syrup, garden produce, etc. Alongside these were arrayed a variety of canned fruits and vegetables, eggs, dairy products, etc., by their wives. On improvised racks hung tempting home-cured hams. At the general mass meeting held in while temporary curtains stretched across the afternoon the Rev. S. S. Seay, of Greenville, delivered the annual address. It was a very practical talk, couched in numerous references and allusions with which the average farmer is conversant. His message took a bee line to many of the antiquated ideas, ideals and practical management. The sight gave tinges prevalent in farm life.

The whole exhibition offered a direct testimony to the efficacy of the farm in supplying abundant foodstuffs under support to the prevalent "back to the farm" movement, and to the maintenance of "back yard gardens" by urban dwellers.

What is considered a distinct step forward in conducting this annual conference was the allotment of the morning session into four 45-minute periods for instructional purposes. During the first period the attending farmers were divided into four study groups in field

on common problems in these fields. At the end of each period the respective groups rotated to another field of study similarly conducted.

The specialists in charge of the discussions were as follows:

Field crops, E. C. Dobbs, State extension agent; livestock, N. Kollocks, movable school agent, Tuskegee Institute; V. C. Turner, State Club agent; poultry, R. A. Mundy, poultry specialist from Tuskegee Institute.

### Department for Women

Meantime the farm women were likewise engaged in classes in clothing, home management and cooking. L. R. Daly, corn, 200 bushels; hay eight tons; meal home demonstration agent of Macon and Lard, 600 pounds; milk, 365 gallons; County, gave plans and procedures for butter, 104 pounds; eggs, 150 dozen; arranging a girls' room. Prof. M. B. sweet potatoes, 40 bushels; Irish potato, Harper, who had charge of the groups totes, 30 bushels; oats, four acres; fruits in clothing, emphasized color selection 25 bushels; legumes, adequate for Winter and combination in the girls' wardrobe, ter and Summer; cotton, the remaining while Prof. O. B. Anderson and L. B. acreage.

McMillan, contributed and discussed and distributed copies of menus, based on achievements of the county organization, that go to make up balanced meals.

A unique feature of the conference noon session. Virginia Phillips, of the Woodley community, reported for the

women of the county. Fourteen communities were awarded blue ribbon prizes for contributing to the make-up of the exhibit. Red ribbon awards went to communities that made a full report.

The assistance rendered in conducting this conference by outstanding agricultural leaders of the State, the gratifying attendance of several hundred earnest-looking rural dwellers who faced the rigors of suddenly dropped temperature accompanied by a high wind, and the presence of prominent local business men and ministers gave an unstinted testimony to, and an approval of, the high type of service that is being rendered by Farm Agent J. T. Alexander, and Home Agent A. M. Boynton.

Demonstration Agent Alexander, believes that any success that has been achieved with the farmers of the country is due to his policy of "putting his hands to the plow" and actually showing what and how to do, rather than these were arrayed a variety of canned fruits and vegetables, eggs, dairy products, etc., by their wives. On improvised standing aside and telling.

## MONTGOMERY, ALA.

ADVERTISER

JAN 16 1933

THE SOIL

The Charleston recently printed this editorial on its first page:

In South Carolina, on the good lands of Lee County, not far from Bishopville, live eight families whose cotton and other crops command the market prices, which are low. Money is scarce.

These families, The News and Courier hears, "cooperate."

They have erected a cannery, not large, but large enough for themselves, for their farms or plantations. It has first-rate "modern" machinery and appliances.

Records are kept of costs.

One day one of the eight brings his foodstuffs to the little plant and cans them. Sometimes, neighbors help. Another day another cans his foodstuffs.

They have been canning about eighteen months.

They do not can goods to sell them. They can goods to eat.

The cannery is not a "commercial enterprise," and as long as the eight families and their dependents consume the goods they can it cannot easily fail.

They can vegetables, fruits, berries, of many, many kinds—and with these they do not stop canning.

They can meats—pork crops, for example.

As long as the families raise good things

to eat, hogs, calves, beesves, poultry, many many kinds of plant products, raise them at home, feeding the livestock and the poultry with the feedstuffs raised on the good lands of Lee, and have roofs over their heads, how can they fail to live well, however low the price of cotton?

Of course they can be taxed into poverty.

Of course they must have some money—to buy a few things.

On the good lands in Lee how can families that intelligently cooperate fail to have plenty to eat?

In Iowa and Missouri are good lands, but they will not produce one-half the number of crops of the good lands in Lee.

A hog or a calf canned does not have to be fed in the few South Carolina months when not much feed is growing on the lands.

Thousands of Alabama farmers have done substantially as well. They have acquired a new skill in providing themselves and their families with choice staple foods to see them through the dark days.

This generation of farmers is doing better by itself in this respect than any generation since the one that came along right after the War Between the States. In the flush days just before The Crash food-growing and food-canning were below normal.

In an older day the man of the soil took care of his own first, and then sought the market with his surplus. At least, that is our theory, and we stick to it.

Negroes especially have improved their ways. They are better informed about how to take care of their own and being better informed they are more thrifty. Our Negro farmers are very poor, but they are better food-growers today than Negroes have ever been, if we may believe reports.

The Advertiser recently enjoyed this story: A professional man of its acquaintance, a Montgomerian, owns a farm out from town "a little piece." (How long, by the way, is "a little piece?") On it is a Negro man who was born on the place. He has a family, and is advanced in years. He loves the land he cultivates and to which he has grown, more or less.

One day this professional man, who rents land to the old colored man, said to him: "I am doing so badly in my business and collections are so poor, that you may yet have to take care of me. I see you have a smoke house and corncrib filled with things to eat."

The colored man—who, anyone can see, to drive him rather hard to prevail on him will never be a Communist, or anything to grow these things. But he is easier to half that bad—reassured his old friend, manage now. He has learned that cotton telling him that if ever he should need any part of his possessions, it would please him to divide.

The professional man thought no more of the conversation. But a morning or two later, rather early, he heard someone banging around on his back porch here in town. It was his old colored friend from the farm near town.

The descendant of slaves had brought to the descendant of masters a shoulder, a slab of side meat and some field peas! He had taken his doctor-friend seriously.

Communists, International Labor Defense attorneys and their pinkish sympathizers may not believe it, but The Advertiser has never doubted that there is a Negro tenant in Montgomery county who would not gladly split his side meat, field peas and syrup with his white landlord if he had reason to believe that his white landlord needed food.

The Negro is generous and open-handed. Bless him, if ever he does get his hands on any money, he will live well and be unbelievably happy! And he will split with whomsoever appeals to him, whether white or black. Who has ever known a Negro tightwad?

That is our idea about the Average Negro as we know him. The Average Negro today, not only on the farm but elsewhere, is, as we have said, very poor, but he rarely hates the white man that he knows. He may hate white men, but they are not persons that he knows, usually. Actually he feels a sense of responsibility for the well-being of his white friends; we suspect that as a matter of fact he is more solicitous of their welfare than they are of his.

Be all that as it may the farm Negro today is better informed about food-growing practices than he ever was before. He has no money, but he is much more inclined to listen to food propagandists than he used to be, and many of them have become thrifty and skillful in managing their affairs. Many farm Negroes today even grow flowers in their yards. That is something new, and it is significant.

The Negro loves the soil, and adorns it. Train him, give him a fair break on prices and no power—no earth can alienate him from the soil.

We marvel at his patience, his capacity to absorb punishment, and to resist the temptation to hate blindly. We are glad that he is learning how to grow hogs, corn, field peas and to make syrup.

It used to be that his white landlord had

is unreliable, but that his appetite is never failing.

Once the Negro becomes as thrifty as the Scotch are supposed to be, and most of the jokes about stinginess turn on him, he will be a happy and secure man. Leadership and training will make the farm Negro what he ought to be, what his natural destiny demands.

And so, with the white farmer. Nobody is making any money these days, but the master of the soil can make more food than he and his loved ones can eat to save their lives.

## ~~Advertiser~~ Farmer Protests Montgomery Free Food Plan

2-19-33  
**Lowndes County Planter  
Says Negroes Fed By  
Red Cross Won't Work**

James B. McLendon, who owns and operates a farm of 1,573 acres in Lowndes County yesterday charged that the use of Government money to provide unemployed negroes with rations was making it difficult for farmers to secure necessary labor. He cited his own experience to substantiate the charge.

On Feb. 1, Mr. McLendon said, he visited the office of the Montgomery Red Cross Chapter, where relief funds are administered, in the hope of securing 10 or 12 negro families for his Lowndes County plantation. The woman in charge, he asserted, assured him that the chapter would be able to find him all the wage hands he wanted and suggested that he come back at 2:30 o'clock.

"I went back," Mr. McLendon said, "and found over 250 negroes standing in line at the Red Cross commissary and drawing rations. I put my proposition up to them but they just laughed at me. One said, 'Nawsir, whitefolks, us can't work on no farm when we's gittin' 50 cents a day in rations here.'

"All the others said about the same thing and out of that whole bunch I couldn't get a single one who was willing to work."

Mr. McLendon said that he was still in need of about a dozen families. He said he had plenty of corn and meat to carry them through the year. The system in Lowndes County, he said, was to furnish rations and shelter to wage hands and to pay 33 cents a day, paying off at the end of the month.

"I don't blame the negroes," Mr. McLendon said. "You can hardly expect them to do any hard work when they can get free rations. I do not believe it is right, however, to use public funds

to reed people who won't work. Such a practice encourages loafing and certainly does make it hard for a farmer to find hands when it should be an easy matter with so many people out of work."

At the Red Cross office yesterday Mr. McLendon's visit was recalled. It was insisted that the chapter could still find him all the sharecroppers or wage hands he could use. A worker said that the reason Mr. McLendon could not secure any hands at the time of his visit was that he wanted them to go with him to Lowndes County at once. "If he will just make an appointment with us, we will get him more hands than he can use," she said.

## ~~Advertiser~~ Call Of Farms Continues To Drain City Population, U. S. Survey Shows

U. S. May Quash  
Montgomery Seed Loan Cases

5-2-33  
Approximately one-third of the 21 seed loan cases remaining in the Dothan division docket of the United States District Court will likely be nolle prossed Sam E. Whitaker, special assistant United States Attorney General, indicated yesterday.

These figures are contained in the annual estimate of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, released yesterday by F. W. Gist, State and Federal agricultural statistician, which shows also for the entire country that on Jan. 1, 1933, the farm population was 32,242,000, compared with 31,241,000 Jan. 1, last year, a net gain of 1,001,000.

This is the largest increase recorded since 1920, the first year for which annual estimates are available, it is stated. From Jan. 1, 1930, to the same date in 1933, the estimate shows, the farm population of the Nation has increased from 30,169,000 to the present high mark, the previous high mark being 32,076,960 in 1910, according to a census estimate. At the present time the farm population is the largest in history.

There were originally about 65 cases

growing out of loans to citizens for the purchase of seed, feed and fertilizer in 1929.

A number of defendants have entered pleas of guilty and been sentenced,

while about 30 or 40 others, most of

which involve one or more defendants

who had already pleaded guilty, were

nolle prossed sometime ago.

Mr. Whitaker said he had inquired into a number of the cases on the docket and expressed the hope that all of them could be disposed of at the next term of court, which opens in Dothan, May 22.

Most of the cases are conspiracy cases which may be termed felonies within the discretion of the court.

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The Bureau of Agricultural Economics estimates, it is announced, that 1,011,000 persons left farms for towns and cities during 1932, and that 1,544,000 left towns or cities for farms. The surplus of births over deaths on farms in that year was 468,000. For 1931 it is estimated that 1,469,000 left farms for cities, and 1,683,000 left cities to go to farms. In 1931 the surplus of births over deaths on farms was 442,000.

The most notable change in 1932 compared with 1931, according to the bureau,

was the decline in the number of persons leaving farms to go to cities.

During the ten-year period 1920-1929 the

cityward movement averaged 1,944,000

persons a year. This migration has slowed down considerably since 1930.

Agriculture-1933

Alabama

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## White and Negro Leaders Hold Conference At Tuskegee Institute

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, May 2.—A conference of white and Negro leaders from all parts of the state of Alabama was held here yesterday to consider the report of a survey of nine cotton growing communities of small farmers and their plantations of share tenants in four counties in this state typical of both farms tilled by Negro farmers, both land owners and share tenants.

The survey comprises studies made by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, under the direction of two of its staff, Dr. Benson Y. Landis, Department of Research and Education, and Dr. George E. Haynes, Department of Race Relations—the field work to gather facts was done by Ernest A. Grant, Agricultural Department of Tuskegee Institute. In the nine communities of small farms studied there were 2482 white rural residents and 575 Negro rural residents. The community population ranged from 40 to 47 whites and from 300 to 1610 Negroes. The smallest farming community had a total population of 464 persons and the largest had a total population of 1738 persons. On the 30 plantations there was a total of 291 white and 2263 Negro persons.

The survey dealt with questions of cash and other returns from farming; white and Negro land ownership; contractual relations of white landlords and Negro tenants; credit and credit sources for Negro farmers and a number of other questions, such as tool equipment on farms, housing, sanitation and health. The data covering 322 small farms, operated by Negroes, showed that 43.5 per cent of the farms were operated by Negro owners; 37.5 per cent were operated by Negro tenants and 19 per cent by Negro croppers. The percentage of farms owned is higher than the Negro farm ownership for the county as a whole. The survey included a series of case records of both successful and unsuc-

cessful efforts of Negro farmers to buy land, and house of their own. The study of credit showed that short term loans now come largely from production loans of the Federal Government for seed, feed and fertilizer, while long term loans were from banks and individuals. Prevailing rates of interest for short term loans all ranged above 8 per cent and some communities reported no high as 25 per cent prevailing in from a well known Negro farmer of Morgan, Lawrence and Limestone counties, headed by T. W. Bridges, and B. F. Hill county agents, will gather at the State Experiment Station, Belle Mina, and the County Demonstration Farm, Athens.

The Leader had a call Tuesday August 29, negro farmers from a well known Negro farmer of Morgan, Lawrence and Limestone counties, headed by T. W. Bridges, and B. F. Hill county agents, will gather at the State Experiment Station, Belle Mina, and the County Demonstration Farm, Athens.

In the study of thirty plantations amount of \$4.00. This man is 73 years of age. His relations of landlords and sharefathers died when he was only five years of age. But he has made an honorable record and has succeeded. The estimated net incomes for 1930 and 1931 were considerably lower than even the low incomes of the preceding year. In both years he hasn't grown any cotton in six years. And he has been able to lend money less than \$500 and in 1931 less than \$650.

The conference yesterday was called by Dr. Robert R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute, and Dr. L. N. Duncan, Director of Agriculture and Extension of Alabama. Dr. Duncan presided at both afternoon and morning sessions. The survey was made with the advice of a committee of which Dr. Duncan and Prof. R. C. Atkins of Tuskegee Institute were co-chairmen. This committee

was formed at a preceding conference which planned the survey in advance of 10 cents a pound on cotton, Senator John H. Bankhead (D), Alabama, said today, places the Southern cotton farmer and business man in the most strategic position in history. He suggested a cooperative pool to control the marketing as a check on the price of the staple and a chance of increases. "The offer of the Government to lend 10 cents a pound on all cotton owned by the farmers," said Senator Bankhead in a prepared statement, "without chance

ofment of credit facilities and operations especially better rates and terms for short time loans. The conference authorized the committee with Dr. Duncan and Prof. Atkins as co-chairmen to continue and to enlarge the membership to carry out the plans approved by the conference.

Roanoke, Ala., Leader  
July 26, 1933

## Fine Record Of A Negro Farmer Near Town

Albany-Decatur, Ala. Daily  
August 25, 1933

## NEGRO FARMERS TO SEE STATION

Next Tuesday Date Is Selected For Farm Visit

AMERICUS

GA.

ISSUE OF

SEP 28 1933

## SOME COTTON PICKING

Lots of people have the idea that all negroes are just naturally shiftless and lazy, but this theory has been quite fully demonstrated to be erroneous, according to W. S. Bond, a prominent farmer of near Dothan, Ala., who certified to some cotton picking records made by young negroes on his farm this season, as follows:

Willie James Grimsley, aged 17, picked 628 pounds in one day.

E. V. Grimsley, aged 15, picked 601 pounds in one day.

Mary Lou Grimsley, aged 14, picked 492 pounds in one day.

Harvey Grimsley, aged 16, picked 492 pounds in one day.

William Henry, aged 12, picked 409 pounds in one day.

Jack Grimsley, aged 18, picked 497 pounds in one day.

When it is considered that from 50 to 80 separate bolls of cotton must be gathered to make a pound it must be admitted that these negro youngsters moved about large number reported net losses this year's crop remaining in the hands of the farmers.

"If the administration plan of increasing commodity prices succeeds, either as a result of better business conditions, or through credit or currency expansion, the price of cotton will go up. The plan for reduction in cotton production for next year is a further assurance of price increase."

"The thing now needed is an orderly marketing of cotton at increased prices. That can be done most effectively by pooling the cotton under effective and responsible business management."

"Every cotton grower, every creditor of the farmer has been placed in financial conditions to cooperate in such a program.....I hope the farmers cooperatives, the bankers and business men of the cotton belt will move at once to decide upon and put in operation a cooperative pool or some effective plan under which increased prices may be secured."

Senator Bankhead pointed out that a current exchange rates with the dollar being valued at 63 cents gold, 15-cent cotton means only nine and one half cents a pound to foreign purchases.

# Outlook For Negro Farmers Improves

10-Cent Cotton Plan To Give Alabamians \$20,362,162

By RUSSELL ELLIS  
Advertiser Staff Correspondent

9-21-33

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., Sept. 20.—(Special)—Many encouraging reports on the farm situation were heard of the nation, of which \$20,362,162 will go to farmers of Alabama, according to calculations Saturday.

During the present month the farmers have been concerned with the planting of Winter crops and Fall gardens. Reports indicate that there not only has been an increase in the total acreage planted, but there has been an increase in the number of farmers who are trying to build up their soil and provide an ample supply of vegetables by these methods as well. The women club leaders have been busy with canning and Winter pantry projects and made excellent reports about them.

R. A. Munday, poultry specialist, gave a demonstration on "Culling Pullets For Winter Layers." The State 4-H club agent, V. C. Turner, presented "Selecting Seed Corn in the Field," and R. T. Thurston demonstrated "Safe Banking Methods for Sweet Potatoes" by having a group of farmers actually construct the regulation size ventilators before the audience.

It is through such meetings that extension practices are disseminated throughout the counties where negro extension agents are employed. These leaders are active in their respective communities and their homes and farms are striking examples of industrious and systematic farm practices despite the simple scale on which many of them yet live. This method enables the extension agents to reach a greater number of farmers than by one of house-to-house canvassing. At these monthly meetings, the leaders make reports from their local community club members and return to their communities with new information which they pass on to others. Thus, boys and girls, men and women are given a chance for leadership and responsibility in their respective communities.

10-Cent Cotton Plan To Give Alabamians \$20,362,162

By RUSSELL ELLIS  
Advertiser Staff Correspondent

9-21-33

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23—Uncle \$252,305,263.

Sam's efforts to improve the cotton situation will result in adding directly a 140,266 signed reduction contracts in July. Checks aggregating \$9,533,802 are being mailed them as cash rentals and some of them took options on 193,217 sales of cotton in the Government pool.

Alabama cotton growers numbering 10 cents would bring the added value through the latest operation plus the benefits accruing directly from the reduction campaign to a grand total of \$3,864,340 here. Just touch the pen, while I sign it, 1934, and Jan. 1, 1935.

Senator John H. Bankhead left today six cents a pound. The indicated profit on this pool cotton is \$3,864,340. It will be a new and an advanced step in Federal adjustment of cotton production.

home tonight highly pleased with the results obtained during the week by the cotton committee of which he was chairman. Senator Bankhead's conference resulted in announcement of the Government 10-cent loan offer, which is for Alabama in the Sept. 1 forecast

A crop of 962,000 bales was indicated

for Ginnings prior to Sept. 15 were 265,

regarded as a pegging operation. Senator Bankhead, the Roosevelt leader in 598 bales, thus indicating 696,402 bales

remaining in farmers' control to share

also was the first to propose an acreage reduction campaign, such as was carried on this season in the cotton

pool cotton pound, as expected at a minimum, in the price increase under the pegging

would mean an added value of \$6,964,200 from this source—a grand total from

the two Bankhead plans of \$20,362,162.

cotton growers of Alabama.

9-24-33

The calculations of direct benefits do not take account of the increase of the natural market price brought about by the acreage reduction campaign, which took out of production 10,396,000 acres and reduced a prospective crop of more than 16,500,000 bales to an indicated harvest of 12,414,000 bales, nor do they consider advantages to cotton merchants and manufacturers by price increases.

The reduction campaign resulted in 1,018,518 farmers' signing contracts this season for which they are to be paid \$111,799,333 in cash for rental of plowed-under land originally planted in cotton and in connection with which part of them have taken options on 2,368,687 bales of Government cotton at six cents a pound.

In its offer to lend farmers 10 cents a pound on cotton remaining in their hands of this season's crop, the Government is in effect pegging the farm

price at 10 cents a pound, which is about two cents higher than the average farm price recently prevailing.

An increase of two cents a pound in the cotton price will add \$93,132,990 in value to the 9,313,299 bales estimated, roughly, to remain in the hands of the growers, and will mean a profit of four cents a pound to those who entered the reduction campaign and took options on Government pool cotton at six cents a pound in consideration of accepting a lower cash rental for plowed under land.

A profit of four cents a pound on 2,368,687 bales would be \$47,372,940. This is to be added to the \$111,799,333 to be paid as cash rentals, making the total benefits under the reduction campaign \$159,172,273.

As of Sept. 1, the final crop was estimated at 12,414,000 bales. The census bureau reported Saturday that 3,100,701 bales had been ginned prior to Sept. 15. Government experts estimate roughly, that all cotton ginned has been sold, thus passing from farmers' hands, and on this basis 9,313,299 bales would remain in the control of farmers and would be eligible for loans at 10 cents a pound, which naturally is expected to be the minimum market price. The two cents value added to these bales in farmers' hands, contrasting the previous eight-cent per pound farm price with the plowed-under cotton.

## THAT PLOWED-UNDER COTTON

A cropper from Dadeville, Ala. gives the following description of how the landlords steal the money for the eight-cent per pound farm price with the plowed-under cotton.

Landlord Smith meets a cropper on

his land, John Brown, John, I just got the cotton check in from the Post Office. Come on up to the house and bring to Alabama farmers approximately 10,794,000 as rental and benefit payments on land rented to the Government he finds the landlords wife. The person on which no cotton will be raised in 1934. This will be paid in three installments, the first of which will be threat that a rape charge with follow stallments, the second between March 1 and April 30 his share of the check. "Now, John," 1934, the second between Aug. 1 and the third between Dec. 31, 1934, and the third between Dec. 31, 1935.

It will be a new and an advanced step in Federal adjustment of cotton production. During the Summer of 1933 Alabama farmers plowed up cotton on 818,000 acres in the adjustment program; and the new work will be the second step of this extensive reconstruction and readjustment of Southern agriculture.

Behind this lies many years of trials and tribulations of cotton growers; and concurrently, their business and bank associates because merchandising and banking in the South are close affiliates of cotton. Farmers have endeavored to settle these problems for themselves and by themselves but so many factors were involved that government assistance became necessary for success.

And present indications are that cotton will be reduced to the Government figure. Farmers, it appears, are all well pleased with the Federal proposal and with results to date; hence they are ready to go forward with the Roosevelt

program.

The rate of the rental payment for each acre will be on the basis of 3 1/2 cents a pound for the average yield of lint during the five-year period, 1928-1932. The land rented to the government may be cultivated by the owner provided he produces nothing for sale. The Government contract limited it to soil-improving crops; erosion-preventing crops; food crops for consumption by the producer on this farm; feed crops for the production of livestock or livestock products for consumption or use by the producer on this farm; or fallowing; or such other uses as may be permitted by the Secretary of Agriculture or his authorized agent.

As the Alabama area is limited to 2,050,000 acres it will be almost down to the 1917 area of 1,977,000 acres which was the lowest in this State since 1909. This was a war year; and it was also the year following great boll weevil damage.

While the 1917 acreage was the smallest since 1909 the 1911 acreage was the biggest ever planted in Alabama, the total was 4,017,000 acres.

The total acreage planted to all crops in Alabama the last several years has been slightly in excess of 8,000,000 acres. If this total is planted in 1934 and cotton covers only 2,050,000 acres only about 30 per cent of the total acreage will be in cotton.

And the leaders are sanguine that it will succeed, thereby reducing the Alabama area in cotton next year to a total of 2,050,000 acres. The average for the last five years was 3,416,000 acres; and the proposed reduction of 40 per cent will take from this 1,366,200 acres.

An estimate by Dr. L. N. Duncan, ex-

## FARMERS ADVISED TO PLANT OATS

### Fall Time to Plan Grain, Says Negro Farm Agent

Farmers can well afford to increase their supply of grain to feed next year by planting a few acres of oats this fall, T. W. Bridges, negro county agent for Morgan and Lawrence counties, declared today.

The agent in urging farmers to plant now, points out that by planting in the fall, grain production is increased 50 to 100 per cent over that from spring planting. Those who contemplate planting oats are advised to remember the following facts:

1. Thoroughly prepare the land before planting.
2. Treat seeds with formalin solution before planting. (Use one oz. formalin to three gallons water).
3. Drill seeds to protect plants from freezing.
4. Sow some hardy variety at the rate of eight pecks per acre.

### THAT PLOWED-UNDER COTTON

A cropper from Dadeville, Ala. gives the following description of how the landlords steal the money for the eight-cent per pound farm price with the plowed-under cotton.

Agriculture-1932

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# What Is Wrong With Southern Agriculture And What Is the Remedy for Its Ailments?

A Forum of Opinion Conducted by HIRAM R. ROMANS,  
Editor of The Southern Cultivator.

While the federal congress is debating what, if anything, it will do for agriculture, weeks, perhaps even months, may pass. In the southeast soon after January 1 farmers begin to plan the year's farm operations.

What shall they do?

This forum of opinion would like to hear from some farmers, large and small; owners, tenants or croppers, regarding their experiences the past year. If they had a small measure of success, how they accomplished this will point the way to others. If they made a failure, it will show something to be avoided—if possible.

We have waited years for favorable legislation, and all in vain. It may come this time, and it may not; but while we are waiting let's have some plain, practical suggestions from "dirt" farmers.

Interesting comment on "What Is Wrong With Agriculture" is contained in a recent article by Frederick E. Murphy, publisher of the Minneapolis Tribune, in a recent article in the Review of Reviews. His article in part appears below.

Mr. Murphy is not only a publisher but a farmer, and a few years ago sponsored a campaign that changed Minnesota from a one-crop state to one where the farmers practice diversification and are reported to be in the best financial shape of farmers in any section of the country.

What he has to say about the ailments of agriculture and the suggestions he makes as to remedies will be of great interest to those who have been following this forum of opinion.

## AGRICULTURE IS CALLED THE KEY TO PROSPERITY

By FREDERICK E. MURPHY.

The writer holds to the belief that the question of recovery in general is inseparably bound up with the question of the recovery of agriculture in particular. Why I believe this may be stated simply. We are in the city, and the vast acreage once de-

midst of what we call a "depression" because something like half of our mass purchasing power has melted away. There can be no release from depression until at least a large part of the lost purchasing power is re-

stored.

When we look closely at mass purchasing power we see that some of it proceeds from primary, and some from derivative, sources. The primary sources may be summed up as the land and the sea—the land with its urge to expand still further the agricultural products, its wild and domestic life, its lumber, and its minerals; and the sea with its marine farmer in the temperate zone. One life. In 1929 the value of our farm forest, fish and mineral products was \$18,600,000,000. In 1932 the value of the American producer. Between these products was in the neighborhood of \$7,500,000,000. Here, I believe, we have the really significant figures relating to the depression.

Until the situation as regards raw palm and palm-kernel oil was improved, there can be no improvement in the situation as a whole. What factors are responsible for the present virtual paralysis of agriculture?

They are so numerous as almost to defy cataloguing. Overproduction has followed hard upon the increased facility of production made possible by the use of the machine. In simpler times two individuals were required to feed three. Today, thanks to mechanization, one American farmer suffices to feed five. Industrial operations have been so improved, even since 1929, that if our factories were to return to the 1929 standards of production, we could get along with 5,000,000 fewer workmen than we needed then. This shows us the speed with which mechanization abolishes jobs.

In agriculture we have seen the transition of marine animal oils was 1,750,000,000 pounds, mostly whale oil, the fork, and the sledge-hammer give way to power instruments. Consequently with this, the world production of wheat—taking wheat as a convenient index for agriculture—has doubled the making of soap.

The United States has increased from 378 million bushels to 892 million; that of Canada, from 42 million to 304; that of Argentina, from 31 to 219 million; that of India from 229 to 347 million; that of Australia from 27 to 171 million.

Auto's Effect on Agriculture. The horse has disappeared from the city, and therefore in a position to vote to the production of oats and hay has gone back into the production of food. In the past 10 years our horse and mule population has undergone a decrease of 6,189,000. It requires, rightly, four and one-half acres to feed a horse, so that 27,000,000 acres once growing oats and hay have to meet. It is not uncommon for New

been forced back into the production of surplus crop. When mechanical invention substituted the motor-driven vehicle for the horse, it struck at agriculture cruelly in two ways. First, it took from agriculture a customer agricultural products, its wild and domestic life, its lumber, and its minerals; and the sea with its marine farmer in the temperate zone. One life. In 1929 the value of our farm forest, fish and mineral products was \$18,600,000,000. In 1932 the value of the American producer. Between these products was in the neighborhood of \$7,500,000,000. Here, I believe, we have the really significant figures relating to the depression.

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GOVERNOR TALMADGE IS INTERESTED IN INCREASING BEEF CATTLE PRODUCTION IN GEORGIA.

In passing from the office of commissioner of agriculture to that of the state's chief executive, Governor Talmadge carries with him a keen interest in agricultural affairs, and is giving his energetic support to increasing the production of beef cattle in Georgia. In the picture above Governor Talmadge, on the right, and Colonel W. B. Hutchinson, of Colonial Plantation, Leesburg, Ga., are shown posing with Prince Domino 101st, grand champion Hereford bull at the recent International Livestock Show in Chicago.

Zealand to sell butter in San Francisco. These foreign competitors have protective tariff the placing of an embargo on industrial products, thereby the added advantages of being in the levying an indirect consumer's tax to virgin or low-cost state of agriculture, provide a subsidy for industrial capital and labor. So they seek a consumer's tax on the domestically con-

sumer's tax on the domestically consumed part of our so-called surplus wise, are available? The situation calls for desperate remedies. Modes for agriculture should operate as at least promising enough to be worthy the attention of every thinking person are as follows:

1. Have the government get behind a determined program to reduce acreage.

I do not see how this point can be emphasized too strongly. Everyone concedes that we shall continue to be which our dairy and live stock farmers are troubled by surpluses, and thereforeers should not be called upon to face. This competition, affecting dairy ruinous prices, as long as we maintain I advocate an immediate passage of in production an excessive acreage. The proposed excise tax law, in order The only hope of abolishing the sur- plus lies in reduced acreage.

The government today is renting cal competition which is foreign in many acres of government land to pri-

vate individuals for grazing purposes. 3. Give the Tariff commission authority to act when depreciated currency makes it possible for foreign with the farmer. An end should be competitors to invalidate the clear im-

put to this practice as soon as possible. And an end should be put to all. Because of depreciated currency, reclamation and irrigation projects. Sweden, for example, was recently But these suggestions are of minor selling butter in San Francisco at 25 consequence beside the proposal that our dairy and live stock farmers cents a pound. This in spite of our the government itself undertake to superintend the reduction of acreage on a comprehensive scale.

There has been a marked trend toward the idea of a consumer's tax to assist agriculture, either by paying a subsidy to producers or financing a nation-wide program to adjust the farm plant. Its proponents declare it is the short-cut to the much promised parity between agriculture and industry. They see in the operation of our

have some machinery for prompt supplementary protection when these emergencies arise.

**4. Launch a program to reduce interest and to refinance and adjust farm mortgages.**

This is a banker's subject, and one requiring a specialized knowledge I do not possess. The point, however, is important; and I believe the best banking intelligence of the country should be asked to formulate a program of liberalized credit for the guidance of institutions and individuals heavily loaded up with mortgages. Matters would be greatly helped if the question of foreclosure by mortgage, today so threatening and acute, could be relegated to the background at least for a reasonable breathing spell.

**5. Reduce the tax burdens on the farms.**

In the light of their present re-opinion" in regard to southern agriculture ought to be of interest to all carry would be ludicrous if they were not so tragically high. These taxes of your readers who are interested in

are a hangover from another era, unfair play. which they may possibly have borne. Of course, the farmers themselves must accept responsibility for the results of slipshod methods and the

A sheer anachronism. The best immediate hope lies in prevalent one-crop system. In other ways, however, the farmers are getting local expenditures. Government has not yet comprehended the point public in general and the politicians that expenditures which yesterday in particular. While farm incomes were justified are today mad extravagances. It is regrettable that we can to the point of confiscation, not continue many services that are meritorious; but the brutal question is: "Can they be afforded?" When over for taxes. There is neither excuse for, nor justice in, such proceedings. Taxes on farm lands ought to be limited to a small percentage of the income from same, while any policy which would levy a capital and confiscatory tax on farm lands ought

not be longer tolerated. Another cause of the farmers' troubles is our present tariff system which forces the farmers to pay a higher price for products of protected American industries than would otherwise be necessary. Such a system of favoritism, in so far as the farmers are concerned, is a case of simple larceny. Alabama landlords to wipe out the treatment in the jail had resulted in the national income has been virtually cut in two within a period of three years, the expenditures of the various governmental units should be brought sharply into line to conform to the diminished returns.

**6. Revise and settle war debts.** I believe the president should be granted the authority to make whatever concessions he sees fit on the debts, in exchange for trade concessions from the debtor nations. Great Britain, for example, once took 30 per cent of our exports; it now takes but 7 per cent. In the debts we have a handle through which we can get back a good deal of this lost trade. I believe that agriculture would be greatly benefited by this approach to the war debt problem.

**7. Interest industry in devoting part of its research expenditures to the problem of converting some of our excess acreage into a source of industrial raw materials.**

Should we succeed in reducing our excessive acreage through some sort of legislative enactment, the question would remain as to what eventually would do with it. Certainly it would be a permanent blessing if we could find some use to which we could put, let us say, about 15,000,000 acres now going into cotton, about 15,000,000 acres now going into corn and oats, and about 15,000,000 acres now going into wheat. This reduction of cotton acreage would greatly reduce the hazards of the cotton producers. The reduction in corn and oats production would greatly strengthen the position of the dairy and live stock farmer. The reduction in wheat production would dispose of our normal surplus.

We might use, for example, between 2,000,000 and 5,000,000 acres now growing surplus crops to produce hemp, flax and other coarse fibers to take the place of the mil-wages on government construction projects continues to let the labor unions dictate the wage rates and is now import. Tariff protection against paying laborers a minimum wage of tropical oils and fats would permit 25 cents per hour on the new post office building going up in Atlanta and has the effrontery to tax directly these 60-cents-a-day farm laborers for a part of the proceeds to machine as a whole will be unable to function. But once it is repaired—unorganized workers generally are sleeping over their rights. We must get ballot-conscious and organized workers and the taxpayers' leagues acting together can speedily bring about the reforms so urgently needed at the present time.

J. C. BROWN.  
Atlanta, Ga., 263 Pryor St., S. W.

## ad Share-Croppers Paid High Tribute *Thousands File Pass Coffins of the*

### 2 MARTYRED LEADERS

#### Who Gave Their Lives to Protect Their Homes

Birmingham, Ala. (CNA) Jan. 9.—The bodies of two of the Negro share-croppers, murdered in connection with the drive of the Alabama landlords to wipe out the treatment in the jail had resulted in so far as the farmers are concerned, is a case of simple larceny. Share Croppers Union, lay in state in traumatic pneumonia. James Bentley reported that failure to examine the bodies of James and Bentley died December 27. Bentley on December 28, in the Welsh Bros. Funeral Home. The two were Cliff and others for the benefit of certain favored protected industrial interests.

Another injustice that is perpetrated upon the farmers is the natural and logical result of the activities of organized labor. The result of such activities and contributory causes is that, while the farmers are selling products of the farm in 1932 "at about one-half the average prices of 1913. . . . In the principal American industries . . . average wage rates are now about 100 per cent above the 1913 level."

The quotation is "from November comment letter of the National City Bank of New York, quoted in a recent issue of The Constitution. Thus the farmer is an exchange of farm products for factory products must pay today almost four times as much as he paid in 1913. Farm volunteers for this duty.

Wages, according to the bureau of agricultural economics, average about 30 cents per day without board and wages sent by working class organizations and sympathetic

past the coffins to pay tribute to the martyr leaders of the share-croppers.

The Birmingham officials brought pressure to bear on the management of the Welsh Bros. Funeral Home, to refuse to allow white and Negro workers to visit the funeral parlor and pay tribute to James and Bentley. The bodies were removed to the Jordan Funeral Parlor, where the guards of honor resumed their vigil.

A careful investigation into the deaths of James and Bentley show conclusively that they died, not directly as the result of wounds received when they defended themselves at Notasulga, but as the result of neglect and the refusal of the jailers at Montgomery to give medical attention. Although badly wounded, they were denied medical aid by the county physician, Dr. Fred Reynolds, and Dr. William Gunter, Jr. A private physician sent to the jail by a local group was denied admission. Workers who visited the men in jail said that many of their wounds were not dressed, and others had been dressed only once, the dressing remaining unchanged for days.

A private physician engaged by the International Labor Defense to examine the bodies of James and Bentley reported that failure to treat the wounds had brought on infection and exposure and illness. Share Croppers Union, lay in state in traumatic pneumonia. James Bentley died December 27. Bentley on December 28, in the Welsh Bros. Funeral Home. The two were Cliff and others for the benefit of certain favored protected industrial interests.

Meanwhile, the furious protests at Notasulga, whose home was singed in from working class and local leader of the croppers organizations have ed out for attack by the landlords sympathetic. organizations have forced the release of three more of the arrested share-croppers in ad-

dition to the four released last week. The International Labor Defense is going forward with plans for the defense of the crop pers still in jail.

The bodies were brought from Montgomery to Birmingham, for a State's Attorney General Thomas Knight refused the request of Attorneys Frank Irwin and Irving Schwab, for the enforcement of the constitutional right of their clients to a private interview with counsel. The sheriffs of the jails in which the arrested share-croppers are held have refused to grant this right. Sheriff Young of Dadeville

Alabama

Agriculture - 1933

Condition of

# 6,000 Families Have Returned To Alabama Farms, Gist Finds

## 'Live At Home' System In State Is Necessary, Statistician Says

By JOSEPH R. MC'DY

For the immediate future the Alabama farmer must produce at home, every item he can for farm consumption, and in the use of other items requiring cash must practice extreme economy.

If unemployment is to be relieved through a back-to-the-farm movement, farmers will be compelled to get back to the "live at home" system of farming.

These two phases of the "back to the farm" movement are discussed at length by F. W. Gist, State and Federal agricultural statistician for Alabama, in an article released to the press yesterday.

Approximately 6,000 families moved to farms in this State last year, it is revealed; also that the actual loss of farm laborers between 1910 and 1930 was 39,000 movement from the farm within the past 10 years being gradual and not very noticeable in any one year.

"A tabulation is presented below which shows the number of persons gainfully employed in the various groups of activity in Alabama in 1930 and 1910, and also the percentage which the number in each group bears to the whole number of gainfully employed. An adjustment of these numbers and percentages has been made in the case of agriculture along lines discussed above. In other words, instead of using the 670,000 which the Census of 1910 reported as engaged in agriculture, the home farm workers have been made comparable, which indicates that the actual number working on farms in 1910 relative to those similarly engaged in 1930 was 532,000.

	Number
Agriculture .....	1930      1910
	493,000    532,000
Mining .....	35,000    29,000
Manufacturing .....	185,000    108,000
Transportation .....	58,000    34,000
Trade .....	86,000    43,000
Public Service .....	11,000    5,000
Professional Service .....	41,000    21,000
Domestic Service .....	100,000    76,000
Not Specified .....	17,000    12,000
Total .....	1,026,000    860,000

"The peak number of farm workers in Alabama was reached in 1910 when the census found 670,000 persons 10 years old and over working regularly on farms in this State. The Census of 1930 found only 493,000 of such persons engaged in agriculture. Both these figures include farmers and farm laborers. On the face of the figures 177,000 farm workers disappeared between 1910 and 1930. However, the figures in 1910 included a considerable number of members of the farm family working without pay, which distribution in the two succeeding censuses were left out of the calculations to some extent. In both 1920 and 1930 some of the home farm workers were included by the definition was slightly changed so that relation between agriculture and other

gainful employment. It is to be assumed that where the number of persons gain-

"These new farmers will, of course, fully employed in other occupations than agriculture the demand for farm products will be enlarged. This in turn has need for their own consumption. They emphasize the fact that for the price of farm products. It is to be seen from the tabulation above that in 1910 for their workstock, while 532,000 persons were employed in agriculture 338,000 were employed in other gainful occupations within the State. In 1930, however, the number engaged in agriculture was 493,000, while other farmers must decrease their pro-

terials. "The final conclusion in contemplation of this 'back to the farm movement' brings us to a repetition and a natural tendency to increase the unit price of farm products. It is to be seen from the tabulation above that in 1910 for their workstock, to attain which item which he can produce for farm production of cash commodities. In order to prevent his production of a further cash surplus in cash commodities, therefore, the to the production of such commodities.

### "Live At Home," System

"In other words, if unemployment is for every 100 persons engaged in agriculture there were 63.5 engaged in other gainful occupations, while in 1930 for each 100 engaged in agriculture there were 108.6 engaged in other gainful occupations. This heavy increase in the ratio between agriculture and other gainful occupations was quite sufficient to heavily increase the demand for farm commodities.

"In this connection, the following statement of the index number of prices received by farmers and prices paid by persons as of last September will be very interesting. These index numbers are set up in comparison.

Prices Received	Prices Paid
Grains .....	41
Cotton .....	57
Meat Animals .....	67
Dairy and Poultry .....	71
Fruits and Vegetables .....	68
Unclassified .....	42
All .....	59
	—
Feed .....	60
Clothing .....	111
Food .....	93
Fertilizer .....	98
Furniture .....	140
Building material .....	134
Machinery .....	149
Seed .....	96
All .....	108

### Two-Sided Question

"The effect which this shift of gainfully employed population may bear on the economic situation presents a decidedly two-sided question. During the last two years the number of farms in Alabama has been increased by those out of employment who have sought the farm as a means of subsistence, at least during their unemployment. The number moving to the farm last year was estimated at about 6,000 families net, this being the difference between 9,000 families who moved to the farm and 3,000 who moved from the farm. If this movement to the farm should continue two economic conditions will result. In the first place, those unemployed persons who seek a living in agricultural production will readily find it because it is obvious that any family can obtain its necessary food by producing it from the soil. However, while they are doing this

they will be increasing farm production and necessarily reducing the unit value in cash of the commodities which they produce. So long as these commodities are confined to personal consumption this would make little or no difference. There is as much food value in a bushel of corn when it is worth 25 cents as there is when it attains the price of \$1. The farmer, therefore, who grows corn for his own consumption is not at all concerned with its unit price. But if he should have a surplus to sell or if he should be compelled to buy, he then becomes vitally interested in its value per bushel. This is true of all other

## LIVE-AT-HOME VOW IS TAKEN BY 8,000

### Plans For 1933 Crop Made By Farmers In 16 South Alabama Counties

Six thousand South and Central Alabama farmers and farm women attended agricultural outlook meetings last week and made plans for their 1933 crops, according to information received from R. G. Arnold and Emmett Sizemore, district agents. This makes a total of 8,000 farmers who have attended similar meetings of this section of the state within the last two weeks.

Farmers held meetings in 16 counties and after extension specialists discussed the agricultural outlook for the years, resolved to grow crops and livestock at the lowest possible cost and to grow plenty of food and feed for the family and livestock. County agents were in charge of the meetings.

Speakers presented facts showing that farmers will profit by growing everything that possibly can be grown for their own use, thus avoiding the necessity of buying in relatively high market while selling their products in excessively low markets.

They also pointed out that at present the carry-over of cotton is around 12,000,000 bales and that it would probably be little less than that figure in the Fall of 1933. This being true, they advised that farmers produce their cotton as cheaply as possible, not to exceed five or six cents.

The livestock specialist suggested that it would probably be profitable for a few farmers, where conditions were advantageous, to grow a few mule colts for the market; also if a farmer had abundance of pasture he might get a few scrub cows and breed to a pure bred bull and raise a few calves for the market. They advised dairying only where farms would produce everything the dairy cow needed and then only if the farmer loved livestock.

County agents in charge of the meetings for the past week included H. M. Lewis, Wetumpka; C. E. Stapp, Clanton; A. A. Lauderdale, Columbiana; W. C. Coker, Talladega; F. M. White, Ashland; L. M. Hollingsworth, Wedowee; F. A.

W. Perry, Dallas; Agents Emmett Sizemore, F. W. Tal-Burns, and Dr. R. S. Sugg, livestock specialist; and C. M. Long, Auburn. Rew. Carrollton; R. C. Lett, Tuscaloosa; Hill; E. E. Hale, Bay Minette; H. H. Autauga, Montgomery, Lowndes, J. E. Bonner; Williamson, Brewton. H. C. Appleton, Eutaw; A. G. Harrell, Butler; H. Russell and Bullock. Livingstone; A. G. Chatom; W. C. Vail. Sprinties this week. They are Monroe. Butler. Speakers at the meetings include Dis-

## THE SOIL AND ITS GIFTS

The Charleston News and Courier recently printed this editorial on its first page:

*Advertiser*  
In South Carolina, on the good lands of Lee County, not far from Bishopville, live eight families whose cotton and other crops command the market prices, which are low. Money is scarce.

These families, The News and Courier hears, "cooperate." 1-16-33

They have erected a cannery, not large, but large enough for themselves, for their farms or plantations. It has first-rate "modern" machinery and appliances.

Records are kept of costs.

One day one of the eight brings his foodstuffs to the little plant and cans them. Sometimes, neighbors help. Another day another cans his foodstuffs.

They have been canning about eighteen months.

*Morally sound*  
They do not can goods to sell them. They can goods to eat. *Alas*

The cannery is not a "commercial enterprise," and as long as the eight families and their dependents consume the goods they can it cannot easily fail.

They can vegetables, fruits, berries, of many, many kinds—and with these they do not stop canning.

They can meats—pork crops, for example.

As long as the families raise good things to eat, hogs, calves, beeves, poultry, many many kinds of plant products, raise them at home, feeding the livestock and the poultry with the feedstuffs raised on the good lands of Lee, and have roofs over their heads, how can they fail to live well, however low the price of cotton?

Of course they can be taxed into poverty.

Of course they must have some money—to buy a few things.

On the good lands in Lee how can families that intelligently cooperate fail to have plenty to eat?

In Iowa and Missouri are good lands, but they will not produce one-half the number of crops of the good lands in Lee.

A hog or a calf canned does not have to be fed in the few South Carolina months when not much feed is growing on the lands.

Thousands of Alabama farmers have done substantially as well. They have acquired a new skill in providing themselves and their families with choice staple foods to see them through the dark days.

This generation of farmers is doing better by itself in this respect than any generation since the one that came along right after the War Between the States. In the flush days just before The Crash food-growing and food-canning were below normal.

In an older day the man of the soil took care of his own first, and then sought the market with his surplus. At least, that's our theory, and we stick to it.

Negroes especially have improved their well-being of his white friends; we suspect that as a matter of fact he is more solicitous of their welfare than they are better informed they are more thrifty. of his.

Our Negro farmers are very poor, but they are better food-growers today than Negroes have ever been, if we may believe ing practices than he ever was before. He reports.

The Advertiser recently enjoyed this story: A professional man of its acquaintance, a Montgomerian, owns a farm out come thrifty and skillful in managing from town "a little piece." (How long, their affairs. Many farm Negroes today by the way, is "a little piece?" On it is even grow flowers in their yards. That is a Negro man who was born on the place. something new, and it is significant.

He has a family, and is advanced in years. The Negro loves the soil, and adorns it. He loves the land he cultivates and to Train him, give him a fair break on prices which he has grown, more or less.

and no power on earth can alienate him

One day this professional man, who rents land to the old colored man, said to We marvel at his patience, his capacity him: "I am doing so badly in my business to absorb punishment, and to resist the and collections are so poor, that you may temptation to hate blindly. We are glad yet have to take care of me. I see you that he is learning how to grow ~~ss~~, corn, have a smoke house and cornerib filled field peas and to make syrup. with things to eat."

It used to be that his white landlord had to drive him rather hard to prevail on him will never be a Communist, or anything to grow these things. But he's easier to half that bad—reassured his old friend manage now. He has learned hat cotton telling him that if ever he should need any is unreliable, but that his appetite is never part of his possessions, it would please him er-failing.

Once the Negro becomes thrifty as

The professional man thought no more the Scotch are supposed to be, and most of the conversation. But a morning or two of the jokes about stinginess turn on him, later, rather early, he heard someone he will be a happy and secure man. Lead-banging around on his back porch hereership and training will make the farm in town. It was his old colored friend Negro what he ought to be, what his nat from the farm near town. ural destiny demands.

The descendant of slaves had brought to And so, with the white farmer. Nobody the descendant of masters a shoulder, ais making any money these days, but the slab of side meat and some field peas! Hemaster of the soil can make more food had taken his doctor-friend seriously. than he and his loved ones can eat to save

Communists, International Labor De-thair lives. defense attorneys and their pinkish sympathizers may not believe it, but The Advertiser has never doubted that there is a Negro tenant in Montgomery county who would not gladly split his side meat, field peas and syrup with his white landlord if he had reason to believe that his white landlord needed food.

The Negro is generous and open-handed. Bless him, if ever he does get his hands on any money, he will live well and be unbelievably happy! And he will split with whomsoever appeals to him, whether white or black. Who has ever known a Negro tightwad?

That is our idea about the Average Negro as we know him. The Average Negro today, not only on the farm but elsewhere, is, as we have said, very poor, but he rarely hates the white man that he knows. He may hate white men, but they are not persons that he knows, usually. Actually he feels a sense of responsibility for the

Agriculture - 1933

Arkansas.

Condition of.

# Negro and White Farm Tenants Must Trade in Plantation Stores

(By a Farmer Correspondent)

LONOKE, Ark.—There are 6,000 farms in this country. Five thousand of them are occupied by black and white tenants, the number of tenant farmers being greater now than ten years ago. The farms range from 40 acres to 8,000 acres, the latter being called plantations.

The plantations are owned for the most part, by the greedy non-resident landlords, many of whom live in the East and North. Some of them have never set foot on Arkansas soil.

Tenants of both colors are required to trade at the plantation store, if there be one, or else at a store operated by a "credit merchant" in one of the towns. In either case they are charged a "credit" price for their purchases ranging from 25 per cent to 100 per cent above the cash prices at these same stores. In addition to this, they are charged "interest" amounting to 10 per cent of the summer's bill when they settle in the fall.

In most cases they were required to sell their cotton, which is the principal crop in this section of the state, to a buyer designated by the landlord or his manager, the idea being, of course, that the tenant should—and does—come out at the end of each year with a little less than nothing.

There has never been any attempt whatever at organization, either militant or mild, among these thousands of abused, starved and intimidated tenants. The tenants, as well as the other cotton states ginnings, small, poor owners of little mortgaged farms, need education, determination and organization, if ever they free themselves from the yoke of capitalist greed and oppression.—J. public.

**Editor's Note**—This comrade should the statement of facts called attention to the importance of the cotton ginning as one of the "major industries" throughout the cotton belt, claiming for it 16,001 gins of which 14,151 are active, with a run per gin of 1,175 bales per year. The total valuation of machinery and building, not including real estate, was placed at approximately \$125,000,000.

He should get in touch immediately with the Farmers' National Committee for Action at 1622 H Street, N. W., of Washington, D. C. which has local organizers in the Arkansas field.

~~News~~ 5-25-33  
GINNERS IN ARKANSAS

ADOPT CODE OF OWN  
Commercial  
Committee of Five to Present  
Memphis  
It to Roosevelt.

ASKS POLICE POWERS

Agreement Proposes No New  
Gins, No Extension of Credit,  
No Insurance to Farmer, No  
"Exchange" and No Seed  
Cotton Buying.

Special to The Commercial Appeal.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., July 20.—

The Arkansas Ginnings' Association,

## Influencing Volume.

at special meeting in the Arlington Hotel today adopted the business code of fair competition recommended at the national conference of ginnings and executives of that industry.

Other unethical practices include gift of monetary value for the purpose of influencing volume, extending credit for ginning and wrapping charges, extra or additional services, special favors or contracts with farmers, using false weights, cotton or cotton seed shall not be delivered beyond the gin property free of transportation charges by the ginner while the same is the property of the customer.

No cotton gin operator shall assist the farmer in getting his cotton to the gin in order to get the business; farmers must not be guaranteed against price decline, nor shall ginnings furnish insurance against loss to farmer, and storage of cotton seed in ginnings' warehouse for the farmer's account shall be prohibited.

Ginnings contracting or selling cotton seed to farmers for planting purposes on what is known as an "exchange" basis, with the understanding that the cotton shall be ginned by the party selling the seed also is prohibited.

No operator of a cotton gin shall be permitted to exchange his stock or interest in any plant with the understanding that the same is to be paid for from the profits of the business, and no division of income is to be made with customers except as influence of weather conditions, making business a reasonable one that permits operations from 80 to 150 days per year, and touches on the technical feature of the industry.

Ask Police Power.

The preamble also went into detail regarding the various phases of cotton ginning, citing its dual nature, stockholders of record. There must be no enticement of labor from competitor or customer, and secret agreements also are taboo.

Each state or regional group shall

have the power to police the industry within its territory or jurisdiction under the direction of the secretary of agriculture, and shall further have the power to levy an assessment of such per bale basis as is necessary to meet the expense incurred in the enforcement of this code.

Declaring that "one of the greatest economic losses to both ginnings and cotton producers results from the purchase of seed cotton, which lowers the grade, increases the cost of picking and ginning and leads to unfair competition between ginnings," the code also specifies that "the purchase of cottonseed cotton, directly or indirectly, by ginnings is hereby declared to be an unfair practice." This does not prevent the purchase of remnant seed cotton at the close of the ginning season.

## STRIKING ARKANSAS COTTON PICKERS ARE ARRESTED

DARDANELLE, Ark.—Twenty striking cotton pickers have been arrested here on charges of "intimidating labor." So "John Doe" indictments have been handed down. Authorities state that they intend to arrest 100 more.

Agriculture - 1933  
Condition of

California

**NEW ORLEANS, LA.**  
**ITEM**

OCT 13 1933

**California Cotton**

COTTONFIELD killings in California suggest again that Westcoast farmers jungle worse than those of most other sections in their dealings with itinerant labor. The cotton industry in the Bakersfield district was in its first "boom" about twelve years ago. Gins sprang up. Great areas were leased and planted. Chambers of commerce from San Francisco to Los Angeles boasted the merits of the long-staple Acala cotton which the growers agreed to plant exclusively. Early crops were good, and long lines of trailers pulled by huge trucks moved the baled cotton over the mountains to Los Angeles.

The industry then fell into the troubles that have crippled almost every other agricultural undertaking in California at one time or another. The worst of these has been trouble with alien labor. Just as West-coast farmers first welcomed, then feared and hated the Japanese, so they repeated their mistake by importing Mexicans and then ousting them by the thousands. The main labor-groups in the cotton fields were Mexicans, Southern Negroes, and poor whites from the cotton states. Experience with all these has been unhappy. The Western farmer has not the experience of the Southerner in dealing with Negroes, and the Negro in California is not subject to Southern restrictions. Caught between the millstones of failing markets and labor

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problems which are largely of his own making, the California farmer is in a sad plight, for which neither he nor his neighbors has been able to prescribe a cure.



## Conditions of

## BACK TO THE FARMS

ANNISTON, ALA.

STAR

**P**RESIDENT-ELECT Franklin D. Roosevelt is anxious for more citizens to go back to the farms. In his opinion this ~~large urban~~ *large urban* unemployment in large urban centers.

At the same time, farmers are yelling their heads off for Federal relief. They claim that they are "starving." Congress appears to think that the farmers are in a bad fix. In fact, Mr. Roosevelt has demanded that Congress take immediate action to relieve the poor farmer.

The two ideas don't make sense. If the farmers are raising too much grain, hay, cotton oats, cabbages, potatoes, hogs and chickens; if the farmers are unable to pay their mortgages, and how can additional farmers help the situation? Will not these new farmers create more produce which will flood the market?

Leaving the city for the farm might relieve the congestion in the metropolitan centers, but one can not live on a farm without paying taxes or rent. According to the complaints coming from the farmers, one can suffer as much on a farm as in the city.

The back to the farm movement carries with it no magic to relieve the present economic situation. The problem is one of money. Adjustments must be made in fixed obligations which were created when the dollar was cheap. There is no way to dodge this fact. One point is, the dollar is worth twice as much today as it was five years ago. Business as well as individuals are groaning under the burden of paying obligations in their heads, how can they fail to live well, how back porch here in town. It was his old colored dollars worth twice as much as when the debts were created. Current expenses may be adjusted in accordance with the present value of the dollar, but the old obligations remain to cause sleepless nights. Until this condition is changed budgets will remain unbalanced and businesses that intelligently cooperate fail to have ample to eat?

"In Iowa and Missouri are good lands, but they believe it, but The Advertiser has never doubted the good lands in Lee.

"A hog or a calf canned does not have to be fed

in the few South Carolina months when not much feed is growing on the lands."

Thousands of Alabama farmers have done sub-

stantially as well. They have acquired a new skill

in providing themselves and their families with

ing editorial from The Charleston News and Courier:

"In South Carolina, on the good lands of Let his surplus. At least, that is our theory, and we

lines whose cotton and other crops command the market prices, which are low. Money is scarce.

"These families, The News and Courier hears They are better informed about how to take care of their own and being better informed they are

"They have erected a cannery, not large, but more thrifty. Our negro farmers are very poor, plantations. It has first-rate 'modern' machinery, groes have ever been, if we may believe reports, and appliances.

"Records are kept of costs. "One day one of the eight brings his foodstuffs to the little plant and cans them. Sometimes (How long, by the way, is 'a little piece?'). On it his neighbors help. Another day another cans hit is a negro man who was born on the place. He loves a family, and is advanced in years. He loves

the land he cultivates and to which he has grown, and as long as the eight families and their dependents are so poor, and as long as the old colored man, who rents land

"They do not can goods to sell them. "They can goods to eat.

"The cannery is not a commercial enterprise, to the old colored man, said to him: 'I am doing so and as long as the eight families and their dependents consume the goods they can it cannot easily that you may yet have to take care of me. I see you have a smoke house and corncrib filled with

more or less.

"One day this professional man, who rents land never be a Communist, or anything half that bad

"As long as the families raise good things to be should need any part of his possessions, it would never be a Communist, or anything half that bad

"Of course they can be taxed into poverty. "The descendant of slaves had brought to the livestock and the poultry with the feedstuffs raised-conversation. But a morning or two later, rather friend from the farm near town.

"The Advertiser has not been an enthusiastic

appeals to him soil can make more food than he and his friends can eat to save their lives."

ne will split with whomsoever appeals to him soil can make more food than he and his friends can eat to save their lives."

"That is our idea about the average negro assupporter of back-to-the-land movements, because we know him. The average negro today, not only leaving that it would not be wise to increase permanent on the farm but elsewhere, is, as we have said, in large numbers the farming population very poor, but he rarely hates the white man that of the country in view of the crop surpluses and he knows. He may hate white men, but they are low prices received for products. But The Advertiser gives in the above a splendid tribute to good

"Once the negro becomes as thrifty as the Scotch Mother Earth for the bountiful gifts she bears supposed to be, and most of the jokes about stows on her inhabitants. Together with The News stinginess turn on him, he will be a happy and and Courier, it gives us an interesting story of secure man. Leadership and training will make how the soil can be made to provide a living for the farm negro what he ought to be, what his the farmer and his family, though they may be natural destiny demands.

"And so, with the white farmer. Nobody is making endorsement of the live-at-home plan.

ng any money these days, but the master of the

choice staple foods to see them through the dark days, The Advertiser observes, and continues:

"This generation of farmers is doing better by itself in this respect than any generation since the one that came along right after the War Between the States. In the flush days just before The Crash food-growing and food-canning were below

## Charles E. Hall Writes On "The Negro Farmer"

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Bureau of the Census has for distribution compiled by Chas. Hall which contains statistical data, by states, showing significant changes that have occurred among Negro farm owners, tenants and managers during the years 1920 to 1930, and the twenty years 1910 to 1930, the period of the pronounced migratory movement from the rural to the urban districts of the North, South and West. *2-4-33*

Due chiefly to conditions that have resulted in a world-wide price decline of agricultural products; to the inadequate extension of rural credits to Negro farmers, it is believed that the presentation of this statistical information will direct nation-wide attention to the progress and needs of these farmers who constitute an asset to the agricultural resources and wealth of the Nation.

Concerning our farm owners Mr. Hall recently said, "They operate in every state and in most of the counties and because of the amount of capital invested they easily form the 'Big Business Men' of our racial group. If our owned farms were converted into cash even at present low values there would be approximately one hundred million dollars left after purchasing, on the basis of an estimated value, every church edifice, parsonage, fraternal building, newspaper or printing plant, drug store and moving picture theatre owned by members of our race, and if their land could be placed acre to acre it would make a strip five miles wide and thirty-five hundred miles long.

"Unfortunately," continued Mr. Hall, "unlike white farmers, our tillers of the soil are not articulate because they lack proper organization; their progress is necessarily arrested because of their inability to finance their operations except through prohibitive and usurious interest rates, and also due to a lack of intelligent co-operation they are heavily handicapped in the purchase of necessary supplies and in the proper marketing of their farm products.

"During the past ten years our agricultural loss has been too heavy and out of proportion to our low economic status, and it is about time that some definite and constructive efforts were made by our leaders to remedy a condition that is slowly but surely reducing our proprietorship in a basic industry."

Between 1920 and 1930 we lost 2,749,619 acres we formerly owned or in other words we lost in ten years the ownership of enough land to make two states the size of Delaware."

Those who are interested in the subject should address a letter to the Director of the Census

## SAYS URBAN CRISIS EQUALS FARM WOES

### Dr. Ely, at Town Hall Institute, Declares Both Problems Are Being Faced in Ignorance.

As serious as the agricultural problem is in the United States, the urban land problems and their attendant questions such as mortgage indebtedness are just as serious, according to Dr. Richard T. Ely, economist and president of the Town Hall Institute of Economics, which held a round-table discussion last week at the Town Hall.

Dr. Ely, in opening the conference on "Agricultural Relief and Urban Land," declared that these problems were being faced by the country with an ignorance that was

"We need a new economics," he said, "and it is encouraging to see the administration turn its back on the old theories and policies in the new attempt to solve our problems."

Professor Bernhard Ostrolenk, economist and authority on agrarian problems, declared that the American farmer under present

conditions was faced with the probability of being transformed from the position he had always held as "farmer" in a country of low land values and high labor costs into one like the peasant of Europe with low labor costs and, because of the farm mortgage situation, high land values.

The farmer, he asserted, was in an untenable position, unable to earn enough on the land to pay his taxes and interest on his mortgages. Dr. Ostrolenk added, however, that in spite of this condition, with former farm owners becoming renters again, the family of the farmer with no money coming in was in an infinitely better position than the family of the city dweller whose head was unemployed.

Dr. Frederick B. Shiple spoke briefly of the seriousness of the urban land situation. Joseph Platzker, secretary of the East Side Chamber of Commerce, advocated a government construction program in the slum and "blighted" districts of our great cities as a step toward economic recovery.

Dr. Henry Kittredge Norton pre-

## Corruption Keeps U. S. Loan Checks From Dixie Farmers

### Danger of Lynching Sixty Per Cent Greater in Rural Areas. Farmers Know They Are Being Cheated. Dillard Tells of Virgin Islands.

WASHINGTON—(Afro Bureau) In one of the most revealing papers read before the economic conference held here last week, William Raper, white, member of the Atlanta Interracial Commission, outlined the corruption, prejudice and sorry conditions confronting the Negro tenant farmer in the South.

A study of Macon and Green Counties in Southwest Georgia, Raper said, revealed flagrant conditions among the share-croppers in the black belt. Mr. Raper pointed out how farm loan checks sent to these farmers from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in many instances never reach the Negro farmer, the money being appropriated by white landowners, who charge the Negro farmer exorbitant rates for keeping the money in bank.

Many of these white southern landowners put the money in their personal accounts, he said, doling out the funds as they felt the farmers ought to have them. Some Won't Give Up There have been some instances, he said, where the Negro farmer, conscious of his right to the use of Government funds, refused to give up the check to the white landowner, despite threats, because he knew that he had witnesses to the fact that the white planter wanted the money for his own uses, and further he felt security in the fact that the Government was behind the loan.

Raper pointed out that the fault of the system of distributing the loans to farmers for seed and fertilizer, is that there is no direct contact between the farmer and the Government. The loans, he said, are administered through the states, which in turn administer them through county committees, made up of the white planters. In some cases, he said, Negro farmers have received receipts for loans which were in the hands of the people who till the soil. I do not know how long it will take in this country, but we will have to get rid of the tenant system if we are to foster a better civilization in America."

Washington.—(AP)—General to the condition of the thousands of Negro farm laborers whose incomes depend almost entirely on planting, cropping, cultivating and picking cotton.

Hugh Johnson, administrator of the National Recovery Act, was in receipt of a letter Friday from Bishop Noah W. Williams of Columbia, S.C., in which the Bishop daubed the "In the large acreage reduction of cotton, included in the National Recovery Program, many of these farm workers. The letter said in part:

"As the presiding Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in South Carolina I am naturally concerned as selves, but it seems to me, these cot-

ton-growing States will lose very greatly in the home market sale of the products of the factory, farm and shop.

The Negro constitutes a very large per cent of the population of the cotton-growing States and furnishes a fine home market, when he has employment, a fact of which the merchants of any Southern State are cognizant.

"It is doubtful if the minimum wage and maximum hours of work per week will be regarded as practical by cotton-growers as it relates to the Negro farm laborers.

"In order to make ends meet Negro fathers, mothers and children all chance of being lynched than in work during the cotton season; even the urban centers such as Atlanta public schools in many places are or Birmingham. Before we advocate back-to-the-farm and home during cotton picking time, that the children might be utilized. The child labor provision will not reach there, I, for one, would not advocate their returning to the farms until we give them this protection and re-confidence in the National Recovery program of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Questioned by Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, as to whether the planters, themselves, knew that the farmers understood that they were being taken advantage of, Raper replied that they did understand this, and showed it in some instances when they refused to turn over checks, belonging to them, to the white planters.

### Dillard on Virgin Islands

Dr. J. H. Dillard, white, formerly of the General Education Board, pointed out that nothing can be done in the way of relieving these conditions until the tenant system is gotten rid of. Said Dr. Dillard:

"I don't know about the rest of the country, but in the South, burning question is farm ownership and getting rid of the tenant system. I've just come back from the Virgin Islands, where two dozen people own all the land. The government is sponsoring a program whereby in twenty years we hope to have this land in the hands of the people who till the soil. I do not know how long it will take in this country, but we will have to get rid of the tenant system if we are to foster a better civilization in America."

## Questions General Johnson About Negro Farmers

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"As the presiding Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in South Carolina I am naturally concerned as selves, but it seems to me, these cot-

General.

Condition of

# 'BACK TO FARM' NO SOLUTION TO OUR PROBLEMS

The following letter appearing in answer to the New York Herald Tribune's editorial, "The Negro's Place In the Sun," is worthy of attention:

To the New York Herald Tribune:  
Your story "NRA Urged to Put Negroes on Farm Units," featuring Kelly Miller, dean of Howard University, and your editorial "The Negro's Place In the Sun" are worthy of serious discussion.

Looking at the situation from your viewpoint, following the deplorable condition shown among some depression-ridden Negroes in Harlem by a survey made by one of your reporters, one can readily see that in your anxiety to do something to bring relief to these unfortunate people you would be quick to grasp the suggestion of Dean Miller and turn them back to the farm. But it is doubtful whether or not this is the correct solution.

\* \* \*

It must be kept in mind that this depression is not only striking down Negroes; it is reaching out and taking a slap at all of the races. So there is no more reason for advocating a shift to the farm for Negroes than there is for ordering the same dose for any other Americans.

And, on the other hand, if millions of farmers in about 23 states are now on a farm holiday in protest against the low purchasing power of the farm dollar, mortgage and tax strain and other ills, while at the same time the Agricultural Adjustment Administration is striving to decrease farm acreage, how can the farm be such a fine haven for the Negro?

\* \* \*

Scanning the reasons advanced by Dean Miller for sending the Negro back to the farm, I am sorry to confess that I cannot agree with some of the things he says.

He states: "The city Negro has no definite function or assured status." Here in New York City there was and is an assured status

for the Negro on radio, stage and screen, in politics and business, provided he has within him the stuff with which to make the grade. In the City of Chicago at least one Negro found status in Congress. In the beautiful city of Washington another Negro found status as dean of Howard University.

The dean says: "The Negro in the city develops and acquires a puny and sickly growth." Harlem refutes this by presenting thousands of Negroes who are too often referred to as burly.

He says: "City Negroes loiter around the outer edge of industry and are assigned to the manual and menial tasks which the white man does not care to perform." In New York City, up to now, I have failed to find the task that the white man does not care to perform. If some of the Negroes were eager to jump at some of the tasks which the white man is performing, fewer Negroes would be unemployed.

No. Back to the farm is not the solution to the problem.

The Negro is entitled to, should and will get all of the benefits from the NRA that go to other Americans. Judging from the fight carried on with the Southern lumber men by General Johnson and the lack of discrimination in the accepted codes, there is no doubt about this.

\* \* \*

Dean Kelly Miller well knows why the Negro left "Mother Nature" for the big city. He left for the same reasons that other races left other countries—to escape persecution, to avoid prejudice, to increase its educational advantages, to obtain a higher standard of living and to carve for himself a "status."

And, like other races, he has been halted in the big cities by the depression. And, like other races, he will march on when the depression subsides.

The Negro is not seeking a place in the sun; it becomes too hot there at times, and, as happened in Maryland the other day, he is likely to get burned.

L. E. BAILEY.

New York, Oct. 23, 1933.

## FARM COLONIZATION MAY BE THE SOLUTION

During the last eighteen months much effort has been exerted to urge Negroes to return to the farms, ostensibly because of lack of adequate employment in the northern industrial centers which resulted in an added burden to County and City relief agencies. Northern daily newspapers devoted many columns to the suggestion that the Negro should be returned to the farm, without the added practical suggestion of which particular farm or under what terms or conditions, except to suggest that County, City or some charitable organization would raise the necessary funds to pay their transportation south. Southern newspapers devoted nearly as many columns replying that the South did not want and would not let the North dump a lot of idle Negroes upon the South for the South to take care of because there was not enough work on the Southern farms for the Negroes who were already in the South.

We took the position then as we do now, that the Negro was not in the same category with Mexicans and other aliens and therefore could not be disposed of as easily. We further pointed out that not many years prior, this same mass of unemployed Negroes, which always seem to be such a problem, was very comfortably situated in the South on the farm which he owned and was cultivating until some industrious high-pressure, silvery tongued exploiter painted to him a beautiful picture of how he could sell his farm, move to the North, buy a beautiful home in the city, get a good job paying big wages and live a life of comfort and ease. The Negro believed this fanciful story, and sold his farm, moved North and put all the proceeds from his Southern farm into city property. Due very largely to his own industrious efforts, rather than the efforts of the exploiters, he got a job and continued to pay on his mortgage and put some money in the bank. Later, the depression came, the banks closed, he lost his job and lost his home.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
RECORD

DEC 31 1933  
INCREASE REVEALED  
IN NEGRO FARMERS

Number of Owners, However, Has Declined, Census Figures Show.

The proportion of farm owners among Negroes decreased in the past 13 years, according to a report made last week by the Bureau of Census. However, the number of Negro farmers of all tenures increased.

Of the 377,729 reported for the 104 counties with the greatest number of Negro farm operators this year, only 42,180, or 11.2 percent, were owners compared with 20.5 percent for Negro farmers in the United States as a whole.

In no county with 6000 or more Negro farmers was the ownership among them as high as 10 percent; 86 counties reported under 20 percent, and only 18 reported an ownership of 20 percent or over.

Bolivar and Sunflower counties, Mississippi, led all counties in the United States in the total number of farms operated by all racial classes. More farms were operated by Negroes in Bolivar county than in any county in the United States, except Sunflower county, Mississippi. The percentage of Negro-owned farms in Bolivar, however, was less than 4 percent, and in Sunflower less than 2 percent. Both counties were far below the general average, 12.4 percent, reported for the State of Mississippi.

In this group of 104 counties, only four, Halifax and Mecklenburg in Virginia and Smith and Rusk in Texas, reported Negro farm ownership in excess of 30 percent. The highest, 37.8 percent, was reported for Halifax county.

The average percentage of ownership in the counties having 2000, but less than 2500, Negro farmers each, was 16.6 percent, compared with an average of only 9.9 percent for the counties having 2500 or more.

Of the 181,016 farms in the United States owned by Negro operators in 1930, 138,836, or 76.7 percent, were located in counties reporting less than 2000 Negro farmers of all tenures. That seems to indicate clearly that opportunities for ownership in these counties are better than in the agricultural areas having the greatest number of Negro farmers.

Then came the cry to send the Negro back to the farm. The South said NO and so did we.

The farm colonization movement for which the United States Congress has appropriated 25 million dollars, will find great favor not only with those who said: "Send the Negro back to the farm," but also with a great many Negroes who prefer being on a farm, not necessarily in Georgia or Alabama, but on a farm where they can raise what and be free from the harrowing experiences of the bread line as from the harrowing experiences of the lynchers' noose.

The Federal Government proposes to allot \$2,000.00 to each family returning to the farm colony, the money to be used in equipping and preparing the farm for profitable cultivation—that is welcomed information to the families anxious to get on a farm.

Another welcomed bit of information is the Government's proposal to establish the colonies in different sections of the country, some of which will be near large industrial centers, giving opportunity to the husband to obtain employment ~~as far as~~ possible, while the wife looks after the farm.

Many Negroes have already made application for places on the Government farm colonies and many others are seeking information as to how they can get on the Government's farm colony. If the Government only keeps the exploiters out, it will be a happy situation for all concerned.

## PROTECTION GIVEN TO FARM TENANT IN COTTON PACTS

11-28-33  
*DeLancey*  
Acreage Reduction Contracts Will Include Special Provisions for Share-Croppers.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—(P)—In return, the tenant must agree not to make a nuisance of himself. If he does, the landowner may force him to move. Clauses have been written into the farm administration's cotton contracts for 1934 which officials feel will give protection to tenants and assure them an equitable division of government rental and benefit payments. Those who rent land for cash will receive both the government's rental and benefit payments.

The administration aims at the re-payments, ranging from \$3 to \$11 an acre, and also any further benefit payments on cotton raised. In return for the agreement, Managing tenants will receive half

the rental payments and then will prospect that landlords would have no use for their services.

Landowners who sign the cotton contract will agree to keep the number of tenants they had last year, if that is possible.

If not, the government will obligate the landlord to permit tenents who are living on his place and unable to find land elsewhere to remain in the house they occupy.

The government since it is paying rent for land taken out of cotton cultivation may turn this over to former tenants who find themselves with a house but no land.

The contract is worded so that the landlord is to furnish equipment so share-croppers may raise food for their own subsistence. The landowner also is obligated to make other supplies, wood for example, available to the former tenants for whom he has no cotton land.

In return, the tenant must agree not to make a nuisance of himself. If he does, the landowner may force him to move.

## PROTECTING COTTON TENANTS

Several issues ~~and we expressed apprehension about the condition of tenants in the event that the cotton acreage is reduced the coming year. This apprehension has been somewhat allayed by the announcement that a clause has been added to the farm administrator's cotton contracts for next year that will give protection to the tenants. All land owners signing the cotton contract will have to agree to keep the same number of tenants they had last year. If not, the government will obligate the landlord to permit such tenants who are unable to find land elsewhere to remain in the houses they occupy and they will be allotted certain acreage for home planting and given equipment, making available supplies, wood, etc. This is a liberal consideration to the tenants, but just how many of them will be beneficiaries~~

The administration aims at the reduction of cotton acreage next year to 25,000,000. In return for the agreement to curtail planting of the staple, growers are to receive rental payments on land taken out of cultivation and to guarantee that a part of the yield will be sold at parity prices.

The principal points in the discussions of the cotton contract have been the division of the payments and what measures should be taken to protect tenants who otherwise might be forced off farms.

Approximately 15,000,000 acres of land ordinarily planted to cotton will be given over to other uses next year if the farm administration's campaign succeeds. Thousands of tenants who would otherwise cultivate the staple faced the

## Condition of

### IS FARMING BEST CHANCE?

According to the Associated Press, Dean Kelly Miller of Howard University recently made a plea that the National Recovery Administration help members of our race to establish themselves on farms. In making this plea, Dr. Miller advocated the farm as the Negro's best chance, upon the ground that

11-11-33

the city Negro has no definite function or found to be the solution for all Negroes, any assured status. He suggested that whatever more than it is for all whites. It may answer funds were set aside for the relief of this for those who mistakenly left the farm for group be devoted to establishing exemplary the factory, but were unable to adapt them-farm communities in the South where the selves to the change of pace and environment, race would have business and social centers. Those who stuck to the farm are having with a general store and playgrounds, and troubles of their own, and even the Citizens where it could develop a culture of its own. Conservation Corps, while providing subsis-

Except for Dr. Miller's pessimistic esti- tence and relief for the unemployed, has mate of the status of the average city Negro, had its drawbacks for those working in the his idea of establishing farm communities has woods for the first time.

been advanced by others, as a means of re-

storing to the land those misfits migrating from country districts, who have failed to es- tablish themselves as a component part of the city industrial system. But the idea that those who have failed to become self-supporting in benefits offered by or through various experi- ments, but it cannot be expected that any one condition by changing to country surroundings of them will fit all members of the race. The is open to dispute. In order to make the best that can be done is to try them out on change from city life to farming a man must a fair basis, without discriminations as to race have had some previous experience to pre- or color. The Reforestation work which is un- pare him for working the soil, or at least the der the control of Army officers is pointed mental and physical aptitude to adapt him- self to new conditions and the means of sub- sistence during a trial period.

Not everyone can agree with the reasons quotas of colored workers should be placed in advanced by Dr. Miller for sending city Negroes back to the farm. In fact decided dis- sent was offered by a correspondent writing

under the name of L. E. Bailey, who said: "Here in New York City there was and is an assured status for the Negro on radio, stage and screen, in politics and business, provided he has within him the stuff with which to make the grade." As to the state- ment that "city Negroes loiter around the outer edge of industry, and are assigned to manual and menial tasks which the white

man does not care to perform," this same correspondent said that in New York City he had failed to find the task that the white man does not care to perform. He added rather caustically, "If some of the Negroes were eager to jump at some of the tasks which the white man is performing, fewer Negroes

At all events "back to the farm" is not the city Negro has no definite function or found to be the solution for all Negroes, any assured status. He suggested that whatever more than it is for all whites. It may answer funds were set aside for the relief of this for those who mistakenly left the farm for group be devoted to establishing exemplary the factory, but were unable to adapt them-farm communities in the South where the selves to the change of pace and environment, race would have business and social centers. Those who stuck to the farm are having with a general store and playgrounds, and troubles of their own, and even the Citizens where it could develop a culture of its own. Conservation Corps, while providing subsis-

There is no universal panacea for unem- ployment and the depression. Various reme- dies have been suggested and are being tried out on an experimental scale. Negroes, as for relief work in the cities which in the south. Men who live close to the city will immediately reverse their con- ments, but it cannot be expected that any one condition by changing to country surroundings of them will fit all members of the race. The is open to dispute. In order to make the best that can be done is to try them out on change from city life to farming a man must a fair basis, without discriminations as to race have had some previous experience to pre- or color. The Reforestation work which is un- pare him for working the soil, or at least the der the control of Army officers is pointed mental and physical aptitude to adapt him- self to new conditions and the means of sub- sistence during a trial period.

alleged discriminations, it is suggested that the This would go far to justify Dean Mil under the name of L. E. Bailey, who said: "I've expressed belief that President Roose "Here in New York City there was and is velt intends the Negro shall share in the nat- an assured status for the Negro on radio, ional relief measures according to his need, provided he has within him the stuff with which to make the grade." As to the state- ment that "city Negroes loiter around the outer edge of industry, and are assigned to manual and menial tasks which the white

### THE NEGRO FARM MOVEMENT

Last week in Washington Kelly might grow more corn and deprive Miller, dean of Howard University, Illinois of a market. We might raise our own mules and hear Missouri howl. Or grow wheat and not buy flour from the Dakotas. Whatever the south does with her vacant spaces specific request was made that may easily create a new problem for money be set aside to enable the some other American farmer.

Negro to return to the farm, as Dean "Planters, however, are thinking Miller was of the impression that mostly of their negroes, wondering where these east-out black people can there the Negro could best work out his salvation. In recent years there has been a great movement from the farm to the city, and as the Negro in the city has little definite croppers.

work he is primarily dependent up- on the prosperity of his employers, trained to anything except cotton. They never trouble Trouble until in times of depressions such as these can find little work.

Dean Miller advocates that, in- stead of spending millions of dollars 'A queer psychology is simmering in the south. Men who live close to the soil are natural conservatives, and every planter that I know, without exception, is on principle opposed to governmental price-fixing, for cotton or anything else. Nevertheless, we have no obstructionists. We feel, as we felt in 1917, that many things now being done are war measures. We are merely taking an emergency detour, and after passing it. American genius will lead us back to old safe roads."

No break-up in existing farming relations and no evictions by land- lords of negro tenants are anticipat- ed in this section, says the Selma Times-Journal. There is a well-set-

tled conviction that tenants will stay where they are, and will work a smaller acreage. Every year wit- nesses some migration and shifting of these share croppers, and the usual article in the current number of The Country Home depicting the possibly amount of "swapping around" will, sad fate of several hundred thousand no doubt, take place this year. It is negro families in the cotton belt next quite probable that the inefficient year due to the sweeping cut in the and shiftless negro will feel the effec- cotton acreage. Mr. Dickson says, facts of the curtailed production "our lands planted to cotton will be movement, but the negro tenant who cut from 40,000,000 to 25,000,000 is dependable will live pretty much acres. Nobody can predict the my-as he has always done.

### THE NEGRO TENANT AND COTTON ACREAGE CUT

Harris Dickson, well-known maga- zine contributor of Vicksburg has an article in the current number of The Country Home depicting the possibly amount of "swapping around" will, sad fate of several hundred thousand no doubt, take place this year. It is negro families in the cotton belt next quite probable that the inefficient year due to the sweeping cut in the and shiftless negro will feel the effec- cotton acreage. Mr. Dickson says, facts of the curtailed production "our lands planted to cotton will be movement, but the negro tenant who cut from 40,000,000 to 25,000,000 is dependable will live pretty much acres. Nobody can predict the my-as he has always done.

# ENTERPRISE

Williamson, NC

SEP 29 1933

## Mechanizing Agriculture

Those poor benighted Russians have struck the poor white folks and negroes of the American southland a heavy blow. A country that grows little or no cotton has produced a cotton picker that picks rapidly and goes so far toward perfection that it grades the cotton as it picks it. This machine was designed by the Ukrainian Scientific Research Institute for the Mechanization of Agriculture.

This means that the master farmers and big land owners will soon be picking their cotton with machinery, and the poor whites and negroes will be kicked over the fence to starve in the road.

When Russian agriculture is all done by machinery it will be a hard time for the peasants. No country should give more attention to her machines than it does to its people.

A few folks can live in splendor by machine work but the thousands will suffer in proportion to the gains made by the machine owner.

We need no longer to criticize Russia for her ignorance, because she is beating us in many ways.

**RALEIGH, N. C.  
NEWS OBSERVER**

## DEC NOT REGIONS, BUT LESPEDEZA

The Greensboro *Record*, looking at history, makes the suggestion that as Rome fell so may North Carolina and for the same reason but with less excuse, since the remedy which Rome lacked is at hand in North Carolina today. The remedy is not a new defense against the barbarians from the North but, so *The Record* declares on the best authority, lespedeza.

*The Record* is the third speaker in a discussion which was begun by a Kentucky gentleman who wrote to the Louisville *Courier-Journal* as follows:

The modern view is that the decline of Rome under the empire was due in large measure to poor farming on the Italian peninsula, resulting in erosion and depletion of soil, and that this was the cumulative effect of bad farming by the Etruscans and a number of older civilizations which had flourished and passed away before 500 B. C.

when the old Roman state was just getting started.

Doubtless old Cato knew that the Italian peninsula needed less intensive cropping. Lespedeza, as the answer to his prayer, was not available. Hence, the decline and fall of Rome.

Editorially, *The Courier-Journal* added its historical wisdom to the subject:

The theory is interesting. While the ancients plowed and sowed grain, they depended upon natural meadows for the feeding of their stock. They did not sow grasses; these grew wild and among them, doubtless, species of trifolium, of which lespedeza is one, coming to us, however, from that prolific source of valuable plants, Manchuria. There is evidence that the Romans practiced terracing of hillsides, but cover crops were seemingly things unknown. Hence their rich soil was washed away. Cato knew that livestock enriched the soil, and to that end he probably urged more pasture to support the cattle. When Italy could not feed Rome, Rome disappeared.

Finally, pointing the lesson for folks at home, *The Record* commented:

It may at first seem that this discussion of ancient Rome's agricultural problems is entirely irrelevant to any consideration of North Carolina's present farm problems, but it is, nevertheless, pertinent. In permitting their farms to wash away, in allowing soil erosion to continue unchecked, hundreds of North Carolina farmers are today making the same mistake the Roman agrarians of centuries ago made, and in this neglect they are contributing toward the building of a vast empire of wornout land in America.

Soil experts estimate that 75 per cent of the land in North Carolina is suffering tremendously from the erosion, or washing away, of the productive elements of the soil. On government test farms in this State, as well as on the farms of many progressive farmers, it has been strikingly demonstrated that lespedeza deters erosion, improves the soil and at the same time affords excellent pasturage.

It would seem, therefore, that the old system of putting the blame for our troubles on Jews and Yankees and aliens and Negroes and Goths and Visigoths will not do either in Rome or North Carolina. Nations fall when their hungry, greedy people consume their land without protecting it. The need of defense is not so much from the invading vandals as from the vandals which we ourselves too often are.

Birmingham, Ala., News

December 9, 1933

## NECESSITY STIRS INITIATIVE

The question, what will the South do with the 15,000,000 acres which will be withdrawn from the cultivation of cotton under the government's program and with the population, mainly Negroes, who have been engaged in the cultivation of the crop, naturally is receiving serious attention from the press and farm leadership of the section.

It is manifest that these many millions that have been devoted to the production of the fleecy staple that would be no longer devoted to that purpose must not be unutilized, and it would be both an economic blunder of the first magnitude and a policy of criminal injustice to leave the hundreds of thousands of Negroes whose living has been dependent upon cotton production without other means of earning a livelihood.

It is easily conceivable that the withdrawal of something over one-third of the cotton acreage from its production could be converted into lasting benefit to the section. That would result not only from a heavy reduction in the annual surplusage which has been the main factor in the reduced price, but by compelling the cotton belt to adopt a policy of diversification to which, despite every effort from the outside to emphasize the folly of such a course, it has long and mistakenly failed to adopt.

Diversification, both of agriculture and manufactures, is the key to the advance and stability of the South, and both the farmer and industrialist need to hold this axiom clearly before them.

Under the regulations of the government, the 15,000,000 of withdrawn cotton acreage can be directed to raising any and all food and feed articles needed on the farm. Here is a field which the South has neglected and to which it manifestly should devote itself with earnestness and intelligence.

When the fact is borne in mind that the Southern states annually send \$450,000,000 to other parts of the country to purchase articles needed on the farm, either for domestic or livestock purposes, it is evident that any governmental policy makes it a necessity for the farmers and food processors of this section to get away from this condition and to provide at home what is needed at home will prove a blessing in disguise, however it may be viewed under the exigencies of the immediate present.—Nashville Banner.

Agriculture -1933

General

Condition of

## THE SOUTH AFRAID OF PROGRESS ~~Kansas City and Topeka Plan~~

BY WILLIAM PICKENS  
(For The ANP)

The south is afraid of progress, because progress means turning the light on its pet sins. They do not want too much of the Farm Credit Administration, as is disclosed in Owen P. White's cheap "darky" article in Collier's, for fear that federal participation in southern agricultural arrangements may help the Negro out of peonage. They are afraid

of money from the United States treasury for education in the south, for fear that it may tend to equalize the opportunities of the Negro child. They are afraid that the Negro may demand his rights to professional and university education, and that his demands may be strengthened by the expenditure of federal funds in southern schools. The Montgomery Advertiser (Ala.) quotes the educational leaders of that state as expressing resentment at the very idea that the federal government would "attempt any dominance regarding the color line." One violent leader said, referring to the state universities, where the money of black and white people is spent on the education of "white

whites. The N. A. A. C. P. had never asked any favors for Negroes. Even the Greensboro Daily News in trying to frighten the white people into an idea that this normal visit from an N. A. A. C. P. officer is some sort of a menace to white people. They call Mr. White "the Sherlock Holmes" of the Negro race,—and say that he is coming to get hold of the facts of discrimination and that then the "N. A. A. C. P. will tell the world," as the News puts it.

But we do not need to discover the awful discrimination by any Sherlock Holmes methods, for the Greensboro News, a very reputable southern paper, admits the discrimination: they say that the salaries of Negro teachers is to be at least 30 per cent under those for whites, and that this is the work of the public authorities, the state. They admit that this is unlawful, and yet they show no compunction about it and no conscience, only FEAR of the N. A. A. C. P. and of the federal government.—They might as well realize: Any real progress in the south must include the Negro, and must be really more progress for him than for the whites, for he is the man who is furthest down.

### HOW WILL THEY FARE?

There is considerable concern among the colored renters of cotton lands and share croppers about the curtailment of the com-

That is what has kept the south back,—this fear of benefitting the Negro. They are willing to forego curtailment in cultivation it would mean progress rather than have that progress to include their Negro citizens. When we tried to pass laws to raise the "age of consent" for little girls, and prevent the legal rape of them, the south was unwilling to raise the consent age above the early 'teens, because the 14th amendment does not permit a separate law for white and blacks. Otherwise they would have set 12 years for Negro girls and 18 or 20 years for whites.—When we try to break up child labor, the south balks, because they want Negro children to work rather than to study.

Now even North Carolina, one of the less illiberal southern states, if these land owners are extremely "close all on its nerves because Walterfisted" when it comes to dealing fairly with White is going there in October and will be interested in the problem of their colored workers. This may not be evening up the chances of Negro education with that of the whites. Mr. White will not be asking for an "advantage" for the Negroes over the

the coming year there should be a valid understanding that the workers will receive fully every penny which they are entitled.

Experience is forcing the thought that many of some of them, because it is known that there are certain white land owners who are honor itself in their dealings with every one. In making contracts for

# Agriculture- 1933

Condition of  
**TAYLOR, TEX.**  
PRESS

General.

Condition of  
**TAYLOR, TEX.**  
PRESS

APR 2 - 1933

## **FARM MANAGEMENT NECESSARY**

In the current issue of the Saturday Evening Post is an interesting article by a "dirt" farmer of Illinois who makes plain that farm management is necessary if the farmer is to be successful. He cites the fact that while he farms several hundred acres, much of this is rented, some at the cash price of \$6 per acre. To date he has kept up with his taxes and rentals and has not gone into debt.

But he has cut his acreage in cash crops, reducing his production of wheat, corn and hogs and has put the idle land into legumes, building fertility into his land against the time when it all would be cropped again.

This farmer goes into detail as to the methods that have been adopted by thousands of farmers who have kept out of dept and who have continued to live comfortably, even though they are making the 1929 suit of clothes still serve. And his story is one of farm management—of cutting the pattern to fit the cloth.

During the past few years we have seen the United States government make an unusual effort to aid the farmer. Millions have been expended by the Farm Board and the proposed Wallace-Roosevelt plan will cost other hundreds of millions. Other measures propose methods of refinancing farm mortgages. Custom has been forgotten and precedent has been established more than once in the effort that has been made by Congress to lift the farmer by his bootstraps.

But the matter of farm management has not entered so deeply into the calculations of those who planned and have administered government aid as it might, and regardless of what financial aid is given the farmer he will fail of success unless his operations are properly managed. What would be true of any commercial or industrial enterprise also would apply in his case.

So it is of interest to check on the work of the Extension Service of Texas A. & M. College during the past year, among the farmers of Texas. The record shows that this Service has been effective in teaching and putting into practice better methods of farming—giving the farmers real training in farm management.

During the past year, according to Director O. B. Martin

304 white and 47 negro demonstration agents, working in 199 of the 254 counties of Texas, reported that their work resulted in savings, profits or increased land values totaling \$14,689,315. More than 116,000 farm men and women and 4-H club boys and girls, who coopearted in conducting 242,023 demonstrations, increased their earnings or their property values by an average of more than \$100 each. The work of the demonstration agents followed four main courses —making farms self sustaining, cutting costs of production, conserving natural resources and opening up new sources of income.

These are the things the farmer must learn to do, if he is to operate profitably year in and year out. Almost any farmer can make some money with high priced cotton, corn, wheat or livestock. But it requires management to return a profit—or to keep out of the red—year after year, and this is being taught by the Extension Service. In the end, without question, this work will show up as of more importance to present and future famers than the temporary financial aid that is being given by Uncle Sam—in too many cases to farmers who never have been, except in such years — successful in their operations.—Bryan Eagle.

# The New Stage in Farm Struggles

**T**HE new upsurge of farm struggles in the Middle West is not merely a continuation of the spectacular and militant struggles of last year against low marketing prices for farm products. The farmers are now fighting on the basis of the program adopted at the United Farmers' Relief Conference held at Washington in December. This conference, uniting the rank and file farmers, has already proved to have been a powerful co-ordinating force that gave aim and direction and organized form to the mass discontent of the impoverished farmers.

The farmers' movement today is operating on a higher plane than last year as is shown within the past few days by the conflict at Le Mars, Iowa, where they threatened to hang the attorney of a big eastern insurance company if he did not stop the proceedings of an intended forced sale. At Tipton, scene of the "cow war" of 1930 when troops were called out to force the state bovine tuberculin test law, the mass action of the farmers have stopped forced foreclosure sales. In Pennsylvania the resistance to foreclosures and forced sales has taken the form of low bidding in of property (for a few dollars to cover hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of seized property), and turning it back to the victims.

Last year the fight of the Middle West farmers against low prices for farm products began as a struggle against the robber banks, the grain speculators, the railroad companies. It soon developed into a fight against the state police and militia as the state government tried to smash the farm movement.

The revolutionary working class party that have been successfully built up by the capitalist class—the common enemy of the workers and farmers. From all over the country, especially from the Middle West, there pour in letters to the DAILY WORKER from farmers asking guidance in their fight against their exploiters. Hundreds of farmers not only read the Daily, but actively engage in its distribution. For example, a Nebraska

"In regard to the effect that the copies of the Daily Worker has on the individual farmer, I think it is good---there is a real keen interest in general among the farmers on what is going on in a militant way over the country. This interest has been especially noticeable since the Washington conference."

• Is the fact that the farmers, whom the capitalists have declared to be immune from Communism, have exploded that illusion by welcoming the assistance of Communist leaders in solving the problems of extending a broad mass movement the struggle against evictions and forced sales.

APR 2 - 1933

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~~The New Stage in Farm Struggles~~

~~Struggles~~ - 33

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Not only are the farmers fighting against individual evictions, but they are, in Iowa, especially, preparing farmer marches to the state capitol, demanding from the legislature enactment of laws against evictions, and putting forth bills of their own for farm relief. It is noteworthy that it is in those states that have been for years sending to the senate and house of representatives the so-called "progressives" who made up the "farm blocs" that the struggle is reaching higher forms, that parliamentary illusions are vanishing, that the farmers are showing in action that they will not peacefully starve on the vague promises of the republican and democrat politicians who try to dupe them with stories that everything will be all right if they will only suffer long enough in silence.

THE outbreak of new struggles in the North and Middle West follows closely on the heels of the heroic defense of their lives and their meagre possessions waged by the Negro share-croppers in the heart of the Alabama Black Belt, where the agrarian struggle is being carried on by toiling masses who suffer as an oppressed nation under remnants of slavery imposed upon them by the blight of American imperialist tyranny.

While the struggle of the farmers north and south, Negro and white, are rapidly spreading, there still goes on every day the most terrible attacks in many parts of the country—forced sales, foreclosures of mortgages, with men, women and children being turned off their farms by the thousands, who start out hungry, cold and shelterless in some sort of rattle-trap conveyance to search for a new foothold they know not where. For instance, down in Fredericksburg, Virginia, on January 9 in one county there were sold some 30,000 acres of land for delinquent taxes. There are some 40,000 acres still advertised for sale, which is about 25 per cent of the acreage of the county. The capitalist press reports that these sales were "conducted without disorder." Such items as these show clearly the necessity for more work yet to be done to develop a farm movement that will be able to stop this offensive of the capitalists.

That this movement will sweep the country cannot be doubted. Neither can there be any doubt that here is beginning that process inspired by the United States that will enable the impoverished farmers to emerge as the allies of the revolutionary working class. As this movement proceeds it will sweep into action, side by side with the working class, millions of poor and middle farmers—it is this unity that, as the conflict is raised to the highest stage will, under the leadership of the Communist Party, smash capitalist class rule and establish the rule of the workers and farmers. In this way only can the crisis of capitalism be finally solved in the interest of the toiling masses.

## The Return Of The Negro To The Farm

This release is intitled *Wednesday, June 7. On Thursday, June 8, Dr. DuBois puts it, who would expect an even break for the Negro in the impending industrial struggle.* I have engaged to deliver the commencement address at the State Normal School, Bowie, Maryland. I now have in mind to follow substantially the line of discourse herein laid down. I shall have before me a group of students gathered mainly from the rural sections of the state who are familiar with agricultural conditions and know little of the allurements of city life.

When we take a fifty-year vista of the economic future of the Negro our thoughts become solemn and sober if we assume any conscious responsibility for the wise guidance and direction of this people. The improvement in discovery and invention and the perfection of machinery, lessening the need of human labor and swelling the ranks of the unemployed or of the partially employed, is among the most obvious certainties of the near future. All candid-minded social students will count on the continuance of race prejudice with its proscriptive policy which confines the Negro to the lower levels of remunerative service, shunts him aside or pushes him out altogether. The battle for bread is brutal and ruthless. The white workmen will not combine with the Negro nor permit him to compete with themselves. As our cities become more and more crowded, has a more lively imagination than mine. The rulership of the white proletariat spells the doom of the

Negro in this land. Tillman, Vardaman, Heflin and Bleasie exploited the prejudice of the under white man to keep the Negro under the heel of white proletariat of the South. Appeal must constantly be made to the better element of the whites to deliver us from the oppressive care of these apostles of race hatred and proscription. The black man's salvation depends upon the domination of the capitalistic class. They have given him the only opportunity that he has. The attitude of the American Federation of Labor towards the black workman clearly indicates what would happen if the Negro if the proletariat had its uncontrolled sway. A bare hand-

ful of foreign born or foreign in- ceeds it will sweep into action, side by side with the working class, millions of poor and middle farmers—it is this unity that, as the conflict is raised to the highest stage will, under the leadership of the Communist Party, smash capitalist class rule and establish the rule of the workers and farmers. In this way only can the crisis of capitalism be finally solved in the interest of the toiling masses.

That the existing method of production and distribution of goods must shortly undergo more or less radical reconstruction, no thought in mind can for a moment doubt. That the whole trend of the new movement will be in the direction of liberalism and equalization is universally conceded. The Negro will doubtless share in this liberalization. But the coming of a communistic state is too remote from the American mind to receive serious consideration. Only a few restless radicals and intellectual irresponsibles are propagandists of such revolutionary doctrine. It is not indigorous to the American soil and is incompatible with American doctrine and tradition. It is tinged with the foreign influence and flavor. Communism can never thrive in a country, the genius of whose government permits the free and untrammeled expression of individual judgment and opinion.

But let us grant, for the sake of argument, that we are on the threshold of a communistic state, how will it fare with the Negro then? Who dice by any theory of government come more and more crowded, has a more lively imagination than mine. The rulership of the white proletariat spells the doom of the

## "Back-to-the-Plow"

THE South has its own peculiar problems in relief administration, due to the quasi-feudal system which prevails in the rural areas. During the past winter, plantation field hands by the hundreds of thousands were allowed by the planters to be financed by RFC funds. To the citizens of the southern states, this type of relief employment has come to be known as "working for the RFC," an expression that vies with being "on the Cross," which dates from Red Cross flood-relief days.

When the planting season approached this past spring, land-owners began to worry about getting their tenants back to work. Efforts have been made by the relief administrations ever since February to cut down the relief rolls in the interest of getting men back to their plows. (See this department for April.) That these efforts have not been entirely successful is indicated by news dispatches from some of these areas. A Mississippi paper says:

State officials had hoped to discontinue all relief work by May 1, but floods, late cold weather and other unforeseen contingencies have made it necessary to continue work of the State Board of Public Welfare, and a new loan will be sought from the federal government for May and June.

On May 6, the RFC made \$218,925 available for the first half of May.

From *South Carolina* comes word that the relief administration

missionary makes "Rice Christians" of that state has ruled that no county relief council may employ farm laborers or tenants on work relief without the signed approval of his landlord. "Otherwise," says the ruling, "serious interference with farming operations is inevitable."

"Complaints have been made in some of the coastal counties

where summer crops are being planted," says a South Carolina paper, "that laborers and tenants have refused to return to the tilling of the soil and chosen instead to work for the RFC (sic) the continuance of race prejudice for cash wages."

and proscription—what future can we divine for the Negro. The city certainly holds little hope. What can we hope for Harlem fifty years hence? Or South Chicago in 1980? Or for the Philadelphia or Baltimore Negro at the end of the twentieth century?

If the Negro in this land is to have any future as an entity in the equation of American life, it will not be in the city but on the farm. I know that the difficulties are great, the hardships and handicaps many. But man in contact with the soil is a co-worker with God in working out his own salvation.

I trust that President Roosevelt in his comprehensive farm policies will make possible Negro farm communities where members of the race may form their own trading centers and develop a self-sustaining basis for a satisfied social life.

Space is too limited to complete my idea which must needs be amplified in a later release.

KELLY MILLER.

Condition of  
**KANSAS CITY, MO.**  
JOURNAL POST

AUG 3 1933

The Forgotten Man?

Secretary of Agriculture Wallace has postponed until August 24 his decision as to what percentage a farmer must reduce his wheat acreage to participate in the cash payments to be made by the government under the domestic allotment scheme. The reason given for this is that the secretary hopes that before August 24 an international agreement on the limitation of the acreage sowed to wheat may be reached. In the meantime, the cotton plan of the government is in operation and the people may get an idea of what will be involved in the wheat plan. Some 9,000,000 acres of growing cotton are being plowed under. The owners of the land are being paid cash by the government for the destruction of a percentage of the crop.

Is the laborer to become the "forgotten man" in the government's farm relief plan?

N. Y. SUN

SEP 16 1933

Hardship for Croppers.

great many persons. In time there are those in the Southwest who are beginning to worry about land thus taken from the production of cotton, but it will be no pockets of the people through the tax imposters under the cotton reduction program. Under the present rental characters of thousands of selected in the price the consumer pays for a plan, the Federal Government croppers who have heretofore cotton goods. The money to pay the wheat through the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, is to pay on fields.

Meanwhile, as the *Weekly* says,

10,396,000 acres taken out of pro-

The theory of this scheme is that the people production this year. For next year it can afford to pay the increased prices for wheat hoped that the total may be in products and for cotton products because increased to 15,000,000 acres. Rental will give the cotton and wheat farmers more money to spend, and this in turn will help them average production over a five-year period.

Presumably tenant farmers who

There is one thing that the government ha have planted any part of the failed to take into consideration. It has over acreage sacrificed this year will be looked the effect of the reduction of acreage compensated according to their on the labor that ordinarily is employed to equities. But it is inconceivable grow and harvest the crops. This is not so true that for next year land owners will of wheat as it is of cotton. Wheat, once planted tie themselves up in such way as requires no cultivation. Likewise, the work of harvesting it has largely become one accomplished by machines. There is no longer the annual demand for hundreds of thousands o harvest hands in the wheat fields.

But the story of cotton is a different one. I will be displaced, of whom 80,000 is planted, cultivated and picked largely by crop sharers, mostly Negroes. Millions o Negroes in the South have earned some sort o a living, regardless of the price of cotton, ou of the cotton fields. Consider what will happen to them as a result of the plowing under of 9,000,000 acres of growing cotton. The money paid out by the government for this destruction of a large portion of the crop will go into the pockets of the land owners. None of it will go to the laborers who, if the cotton had been al lowed to mature and was marketed, would have got at least something out of it.

In the long run it will no doubt be advantageous to the cotton business if production can be reduced to within measurable distance of economic fact is that too many per sons are growing cotton, that too many are dependent on cotton for their livelihood. It is nevertheless obvious that if ultimate health depends upon surgery, the surgical process is bound to be painful to a

offset this loss to the crop sharers. But this remains to be seen. The laborer in the cotton field has rarely got more than a bare living for his work regardless of the price of cotton. With the acreage reduced, there will be more labor available than there will be employment for, and some students of the plan are predicting dire things for the South next winter. They foresee hundreds of thousands of unemployed and poverty stricken Negroes thrown upon the public with all the possibilities that such a situation implies.

Is the laborer to become the "forgotten man" in the government's farm relief plan?

N. Y. SUN

ments. About one-half of the cotton produced is ordinarily required for domestic use.

The Administration completed distribution today of \$71,706,035 in checks to producers who joined in this year's program by plowing up from 25 to 50 per cent of their growing crop.

In all, 661,060 checks have been mailed and 832,000 of 1,010,000 certificates of performance providing proof that the grower did plow up a definite portion of his crop, have been received and approved for payment. As many as 48,000 checks are now being issued each day.

Rental payments will be paid next year for land producing as little as 75 pounds of cotton an acre. In this year's program land producing less than 100 pounds was not eligible for consideration.

Schedule Of Payments

The schedule of payments in the 1934 program follows:

For land producing approximately 75 to 125 pounds per acre, a rental of not over \$3 an acre; from 150 to 200 pounds, a maximum of \$5; 225 to 300 pounds, a maximum of \$7; 325 to 400 pounds, a maximum of \$9, and for land producing 400 pounds and over, a maximum of \$11.

The amount of the cash rental will be determined by the county associations, subject to the approval of the adjustment administration.

Secretary Wallace in an explanation of the program said:

"The current price of cotton is below its fair exchange (parity) value. The Administration recognizes that further efforts to aid the cotton farmer in solving this problem are imperative."

"The advance of 10 cents a pound on the current crop will enable the producer to market his crop in an orderly way and he will not be forced to sell at prevailing low prices because he needs the money now. The Government is providing the means to carry this cotton so that the man who produced it and who will cooperate in the production control program will benefit from this."

It was estimated that the cost would be about \$100,000,000. This will be met by continuing the processing tax of 4.2 cents a pound for another year.

Farm administrators said they intend to launch within two weeks their campaign to obtain agreements for reducing the plantings. The first step will be organization of county associations of growers.

Speed is necessary to make the control campaign parallel the Government's program of making loans of 10 cents a pound on cotton held by farmers. The latter will be put into operation soon under the plans approved by President Roosevelt, with loans being extended by a commodity credit corporation to farmers who agree to join in next year's reduction program.

To Be Paid Benefit

In addition to rental payments, producers joining in the 1934 control plan will be paid a benefit on the domestically consumed portion of their crop if the average price during next season is below the "parity" price for the staple based on pre-war averages. Any rentals that have been advanced by that time will be deducted from the benefit pay-

"It was evident after the record production this year that cotton adjustments should continue. It would have been manifestly unfair to the producers if any improvement in price resulting from next year's program had come after the present crop had passed out of his hands. The 10-cent loan will tend to prevent this.

"It should work to the advantage of the cotton farmer and we have assurance that they will not only seize this opportunity but continue these cooperative efforts to insure success for the 1934 cotton adjustment program."

Cotton Farmers  
To Get Rentals  
For Idle Acres  
*Advertiser*  
Government Reveals Plan  
For Insuring Slash In  
Next Year's Crop Total  
*on a government*  
Harvest Schedule

Land To Be Paid For On  
Its Record In Previous  
Seasons, Says Wallace

By ROY F. HENDRICKSON  
Associated Press Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—(AP)—Cotton growers will be paid rentals of from \$3 about their absorption in profitable next year in the Government's newest economic activities. The *Weekly* program for trimming surplus farm production.

Some way must be found to take care of these people and bring about their absorption in profitable next year in the Government's newest economic activities. The *Weekly* program for trimming surplus farm production.

ways and means by which this is to be accomplished. It is much easier to interfere with economic law by fiat of Congress than to avoid the incidental consequences of interference.

The scale of payments will be based on the potential yields of the land under the control program made public today by the Farm Adjustment Administra tion which aims to bring plantings down to 25,000,000 acres in 1934 as compared with about 41,000,000 this year.

It was estimated that the cost would be about \$100,000,000. This will be met by continuing the processing tax of 4.2 cents a pound for another year.

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ABILENE, TEX.  
REPORTER

SEP 27 1933

## Viewpoints

### How to Solve It.

From the Jayton Chronicle:

Peter Molyneaux, in the Texas Weekly, says: "The new cotton plan is a landowner's code," and that "the plan will eliminate no less than 80,000 tenants in Texas and 200,000 in the South. What are we going to do with them?"

Mr. Molyneaux asks a question but gives no answer. Probably the "brain trust" in Washington may be able to solve the problem.

If it is absolutely necessary to reduce the cotton acreage, and apparently it is, why not do it in a humanitarian way, and at the same time improve social conditions in the South, all with one stroke of the official pen?

The solution is easy, simple, and common sense guarantees the results.

Is it possible that the solution of this economic problem is too simple to be grasped by the "brain trust"? However, if enough publicity be given this idea they might eventually get it and take it over as their own. Here it is—consider it well, and after allowing it to soak in, let's have your opinion on the matter.

Put the cotton farms and plantations of the South under the NRA rules and regulations. Prohibit the women and children from slaving in the cotton fields—and when this is done the cotton acreage will be automatically reduced fifty percent.

It is a well known fact that the women and children of the South, in a large measure, grow and harvest the cotton crop. They ride the planters, to go-devils, the cultivators. They swing the hoes. Later they drag the cotton sacks and load the cotton wagons. The men drive the wagons and the trucks to the gin, sell the cotton and collect the cash.

The production of cotton is a slave job. Being a slave job in the time of negro slavery, it made the landowners of the South wealthy. When the negroes were freed cotton producing at once made slaves of the white women and children of the South, and they are practically slaves to this good day.

Our plan is, therefore, to emancipate the white women and children of the South, as we did the colored ones nearly 75 years ago. Put the women back in the homes and the children in school, and when this is done

there will never again be an over supply of cotton—in fact there will be a dearth of cotton that will bring the price up to where it will not be a growing insult to the Sunny Southland.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.  
ADVERTISER

OCT 22 1933

## Negro University Dean Appeals For Aid In Returning People To Farms

By FRANCIS M. LEMAY  
Associated Press Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—(P)—Find-

"The city negro has no definite function or assured status," Dean Miller said.

"The farm is the negro's best chance and the best help the Government can render him in this emergency is to aid him to avail himself of this chance."

The 70-year-old dean, who has been connected with the negro university here as student and professor for 53 years,

suggested that whatever funds are set aside for negro relief be devoted to establishing exemplary negro farm communities in the South, where the race

would have business and social centers, with churches, a general store and play-

grounds, and could develop a culture of its own.

Apprehension was expressed by the educator over the fact that negroes during

recent years have lost 4,000 square miles of land they formerly owned and tilled.

Citing that one-tenth of the national population is negro, and that two-fifths Lee's army, entered Howard University as

of the negro population is urban, Miller a student in 1880. He continued his ed-

said members of his race "loiter around

Johns Hopkins, where he re-

signed to the manual and menial tasks turned to Howard as a member of the

which the white man does not prefer to faculty. He is regarded as one of the

perform. He has been attracted by the foremost leaders of his race. His back-

glow of the city allurements as the moth-to-the-light and consumed by its heat."

ton, a negro leader of an earlier genera-

tion, ended his plea for negro

chinery and efficiency of method," the

educator continued, "the city can no longer furnish work enough for all

ment that the NRA "can no more ef-

ficiently serve the nation than by serv-

erest, the strong will help themselves

ing the nation's neediest in a way that

first. The negro will become the left over, will encourage them along the line of

if not the left out man, if he has the self-competency and self-respect."

"Under modern improvement of ma-

tion.

The educator ended his plea for negro

ability to compete, he will not be given

the chance. This exclusion is due imme-

diately to race prejudice, but not pri-

marily so. It is the iron law of com-

petition. The negro, as a minority group,

is no more the victim of his color than

his weakness.

"President Roosevelt intends the ne-

gro shall share in the national relief

measures according to his need, not ac-

cording to his race. But after the Blue

Eagle has done his emergency task and

folded his wings, the case will revert to

its inevitable status. There is no compre-

hensive outlook for the city negro in

such large numbers as have already gath-

ered there. Certainly such large cities as

N. Y. HERALD

OCT 23 1933

### The Negro's Place in the Sun

Dean Kelly Miller, of Howard University, a veteran Negro educator, has addressed a plea to the N. R. A. for help in re-establishing on the land some of the hundreds of thousands of Negroes who have deserted it during the last two or three decades. As an appeal to the recovery administration this eloquent letter deserves the most serious consideration, for unemployment in congested urban Negro communities has created one of the most urgent and serious of all our social or health problems. The Negro cannot be helped to get back to the land unless he is so minded, however; and for this reason Dean Miller's letter would discharge a still more important function if it were the text for wide publicity in colored town and country communities. It ought to be submitted, as a challenge from a sincere and thoughtful Negro, to the abundant common sense of his own people; and it should then be resubmitted by them to the N. R. A.

Dean Miller writes that a back-to-the-land movement for the Negro is the only solution of his hardships, because "the city Negro has no definite function or assured status." The large cities "cannot hold any greater number of Negroes in solution without causing a dangerous black precipitation." Because of race prejudice, but still more because the Negroes make up a minority group and must therefore take what is left over in a competitive social order, Dean Miller argues that "the farm is the Negro's best chance."

Because he is suited by his racial endowment to a life "closer to the heart of Mother Nature, the Negro in the city develops and acquires a puny and sickly growth. In the country alone can he find a place in the sun."

This capable spokesman for his own kind says that his people have lost 4,000 square miles of land which they once owned, and that two-fifths of America's Negroes are now city dwellers. It is worse than that. In 1900 the Negro population was nearly 80 per cent rural. It is now 56 per cent rural; and, in spite of an increase of 3,000,000 in the Negro population, there are 135,000 less on farms than there were thirty years ago. In the ten biggest northern cities east of the Mississippi the Negroes have increased nearly a million since 1910. The increase in New York City has been 236,000.

In seventeen cities, north and south, the density in the Negro quarters is four times that of the white residents. The death rate is everywhere much higher. The average white male in industry lives ten years longer than the black man, and the average white woman in industry outlives her dark sisters by twelve years. These are pre-depression figures, and New York's Negroes need no reminder of the tragic effect of hard times on their comfort and health.

The correction of these conditions cannot be brought about by administrative fiat. It must have its origin in the Negro community's acceptance of Dean Miller's view that the Negro is, by virtue of his own nature, at an advantage in a position of security on the land which he forfeits when he crowds into a city tenement. It is for the Dean Millers of the race to turn to our Harlems and say: "What about us?"

## Condition of Negro Farmers

Favorable comments are made on the negro farmers of Brooks county, where a negro county farm agent has done good work in raising standards among them. It is pointed out that the negro farmers that are working their own lands do not add to the cost of the taxpayers by furnishing criminals and do make a valuable contribution to the wealth of the county by their products.

The negro is in the South to stay and anything that improves his status as the successful tiller of the soil is not only a benefit to him as an individual, but a benefit to the entire state.

### THE NEGRO AND THE FARM.

An urgent plea that the great mass of negroes now idle in the cities of the south be sent to the cultural section from which many of them came, is voiced in a communication, appearing on the opposite page, from Rev. D. D. Crawford, General Secretary of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia.

This wise negro leader points out that the negro occupies a secondary position to the skilled labor of the cities, and that on the farm he will find his best opportunity for independence, prosperity and contentment.

The soundness of this position is proven by such negro colonies as the one in Hancock county which last year opened a community center, with a handsome community house offering many educational and entertainment features which are available to few negroes living in the cities.

In such colonies the negro can find the ultimate in freedom of action, contentment and opportunity for improvement—things he can hope to achieve in the city only after long years of endeavor, if ever. As Rev. Crawford says, in the city skilled labor has "bested the negro as a mass, but nobody can beat them on the farm."

Not only the negroes, but the communities from which they would go and the sections to which they would move, would be benefited by such a mass movement as that suggested in the Crawford commun-

cation. It would mean more jobs for those left in the cities and more stores in their new surroundings.

## Negro's Greatest Opportunity Lies On the Farm, Writes Colored Leader

Editor Constitution: I am thoroughly convinced that our country and practically all groups of our people are in need of a rejuvenated leadership, whose thinking will be straight and whose actions will be right. This is especially true as it relates to the negro population of this country.

All of our groups are making a sad mistake by trying to live in city or town and to leave the farms to grow up in weeds. We are also making a mistake by trying to cure all our economic ills with construction and public works. We should take a holiday from such efforts and with the money locate the people on the farms and give them a push-off to communication, appearing on the upward self-supporting independent post office, Tom Rev. D. D. Crawford, General Secretary of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia.

As to my people, under the present trend, the rural life is their very best hope for the future, especially the immediate future, and I would like to see a mass movement in that direction. In the cities, skilled labor has them bested as a mass. Nobody can beat them on the farm. Then why not encourage them to do well that which their training best fits them for until they become competent and efficient in that and the few who may choose the trades and professions will have a larger clientele from which to draw support.

The masses of no people will ever become professionals and specialists. That is the lot of the few. It is therefore wrong to hold up phantoms before the masses and cause them to aspire for the impossible rather than to be content in doing that which their ability enables them to do best.

I wish for my people the highest possible measure of development and success, but I know the masses cannot attain these in leaps and bounds. Like all others, the group must take time to lay a firm foundation and they should build on that with care and much deliberation. The position recently inaugurated hereabouts I take here is subject to criticism by those who only have an immature knowledge of the problems here involved and the ends to be attained, but to those I answer, that I have given more than 50 years to development efforts among my people and I have studied the situation from every angle, prayerfully.

In my opinion, the government could use some of its money to a most profitable end by colonizing negroes on farms in independent negroacres. The general exodus of negroes from the South to the North, at meeting, agreeing to plow up a locality of her skilled workmen

dependence upon the white man for centuries. At the same time, I think the white man's attitude to-

ward the negro should be of constructive sympathy and encouragement.

The white authorities should give the colony good roads and ample protection, and encourage the building of good homes, churches and school-houses and also see that they get a just share of the public school funds to successfully run their schools.

Here in the south and Georgia, it seems to me, is the best place in the world to make such an experiment. All countries seem to be experimenting now, and this to my mind, strikes me as being practical.

Our money investments, to my thinking, should go into productive enterprises and industry, from which we should receive returns and you cannot get this from public works.

Money investments should reproduce itself.

D. D. CRAWFORD, Executive Secretary, General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia (Colored).

Atlanta, Ga., May 4, 1933

5-7-33

Milledgeville, Ga., Times

June 30, 1933

## Signs Of The Times

Wednesday evening of this week an old negro who had passed the three-score and ten mark was in attendance at a meeting of Baldwin county farmers held in the court house here. A call had been issued to the cotton growers of this immediate section of the county to assemble on this occasion to consider proposals made by the federal government to farmers throughout the South.

By the gentleman who was presiding at the meeting, expressions were asked of the colored farmers seated on one side of the court house auditorium. It was the plan to learn from the farmers their attitude with reference to the government's suggestion that cotton growers plow up from 25 to 50 per cent of their crop with the understanding that the government would reimburse the planters for whatever losses they might sustain and at the same time offer assurance of advance in price of the fleecy staple.

In a few words enthusiastically spoken, it was made plain by the old colored man that he was willing to join in any movement designed to bring about improvement of conditions that have so effected the whole country. He spoke loud and indicated that he was seriously interested in what was going on. Judging from his remarks his faith had been mended and at last he had come to the conclusion that "in unity there is strength" that "a house divided against itself must fall."

America is riding the high seas, so to speak. That old negro was uneducated, but evidently he is possessed of certain reasoning faculties. Manifestly so he has not given up, but his faith is resting in the future.

America must awaken. We have been drifting too long, entirely too long. Almost anything could happen. Faith must be maintained and we must look to honest leadership for salvation.

We must become a thinking people and lend encouragement to those who are able

and in a position to guide us along a road that is not all too rosy.

## Farmers Getting Cotton Loans Advertiser 9-24-33 Must Pledge Acreage Slashes

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23. (AP)—Officials of the Farm Administration, Reconstruction Corporation, and Farmton on the Delta and Pine Land Credit Administration definitely decided today to require farmers who borrow 10 cents a pound on their cotton to co-operate in the production control plan for next year.

The prospect that thousands of tenant farmers might be unable to make arrangements with their landlords next year due to the fact that cotton planting is to be reduced to 25,000,000 acres is one of the things causing the Farm Administration concern.

The county allotment will be made on the basis of the land itself and numerous complaints have been made, but there is nothing to prevent the owners of property from hiring labor to work the land, or from reducing the number of tenant families that ordinarily would cultivate the farm.

The extent of that connection probably will be that borrowers will pledge themselves to join in the plan designed to take about 15,000,000 acres out of production next year.

Any arrangement beyond this it was held, would be impractical, for the number of acres which each cotton county may plant has not been allocated by the farm administration.

Oscar Johnson, finance administrator for the administration; Stanley Reed, counsel for the Reconstruction corporation, and Herman Oliphant, farm credit counsel, met today for several hours in Johnston's office and discussed legal phases of the loan plan.

Numerous memoranda have been circulated on this within the Farm Administration both as to possible clauses that might be written into the reduction contract and also as to the division of rental and other benefit payments to tenants who share-crop the land.

Secretary Wallace today insisted that the Government's agreement to lend 10 cents a pound on cotton still in the hands of the producer be connected with the control program for 1934.

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Oscar Johnson, finance administrator for the administration, Stanley Reed, counsel for the Reconstruction Corporation and Herman Oliphant, farm credit counsel, met today for several hours in Johnston's office and discussed legal phases of the loan plan.

It was agreed that machinery for the actual lending should be set up as quickly as possible. Unless the farm price of cotton goes to around 10 cents, producers are expected to hold their bales for the time being, but if the Government is slow in arranging loans many of them will have to sell to get immediate cash.

Johnston also was one of the framers of the production control plan.

Before entering Government service, he managed a large cotton plantation near Scott, Miss. He has presented Secretary Wallace with a tentative plan which that plantation has drawn to take

numerous complaints have been

### Wallace Takes Stand

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### Early Action Sought

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The plan for next year is to limit each worker to four acres, with a maximum limit of 24 acres to any family. The readjustment is expected to take care of all tenant families now on the plantation and farm officials are hoping that similar arrangements will be made for other tenant farmers in the South.

In addition, the use of tractors is to be abandoned and all cotton land is to be farmed by tenants.

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## TENANT PROBLEM Advertiser BEFORE WALLACE 9-24-33

Cotton Loan Plan Is Being Adjusted to Take Care of Southern Share-Croppers

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23 (AP)—Officials of the farm administration, Reconstruction corporation and farm credit administration definitely decided today to require farmers who borrow 10 cents a pound on their cotton to co-operate in the production control plan for next year.

In the case of tenants, the pledge may mean very little, for they may cultivate other land next year, or possibly may not cultivate any at all.

The prospect that thousands of tenant farmers may be unable to make arrangement with their landlords next year, due to the fact that cotton planting is to be reduced to 25,000,000 acres is one of the things causing the farm administration concern.

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Agriculture-1933

Georgia

Condition o.f.

# TENANT FARMERS STIR CONTROVERSY

AAA Considers Their Future  
in Next Year's Cotton Re-  
duction Program.

SECURITY IS THE AIM

Agricultural Editor, However,  
Holds Their Condition No  
Worse Than Before.

By JULIAN HARRIS.

Editorial Correspondence, THE NEW YORK TIMES.  
ATLANTA, Ga., Nov. 1.—The controversy within the AAA as to whether landlords who join in the cotton reduction plan next year should be bound to keep the number of tenant families they have this year is being followed with interest in the South. Opinion is divided.

Much has been said and written concerning the plight of the tenant farmer. Unquestionably, in the South the tenant farmer is in a plight for years, although at present his condition is on the road to improvement.

There has been a tendency to emphasize the woes of the tenant farmer.

Far more optimistic is the non-tenant has not emerged from his plight in a few months. For instance, Governor Talmadge looks with jaundiced eye on the condition of all farmers in this section and sees the whole agricultural situation shot to the core with plight.

"There is little or no hope for salvation of the tenant farmer in Georgia as long as the Federal Government puts out any kind of direct relief or work relief," Governor Talmadge believes.

"The tenant farmer, no matter on what basis he operates, can do as well as he can working on work relief projects or obtaining direct relief. If he gets on the relief rolls he is like everyone else and naturally will not none the worse for the delay, for as work when he can get something soon as they began to sell their cotton, twelve or fourteen hours a last year. Eventually they will re-

day in the field if he can get three receive, if they have not already received what he would earn either received, their 'plow-up' money."

## Relief Rolls a Lure.

A great many of the tenant farmers in Georgia are Negroes, who are a leader in efforts to change this never have been used to much situation fundamentally. Mr. Romans, who believes that the present scheme of short-term tenants and croppers is unsound in good as well as bad times, has been taking form and is intended to merely drawing relief funds and relief goods."

## For Longer Leases.

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Governor Talmadge believes the failure of the Federal Government to speed up payments to both the Commissioner of Agriculture. Mr. Adams, who has just completed a cotton acreage they plowed up last 700-mile tour of the State, reports Summer also has tended to cause that farmers as a whole are in better financial shape than they were last year. He attributes this improved agricultural condition now, but at the rate the government checks are arriving it will be only to increased prices but also to a long time before all of them get the fact that "they have produced what is coming to them."

"I told the farmers of Georgia that it was all right if they plowed up their cotton provided they wanted to," the Governor said. "I credit," said Mr. Adams. "So they neither endorsed nor condemned the plan, but I told them to get cash on the barrel head for the acreage they plowed up; this they failed to do, and as a consequence they and the whole State are suffering."

The Governor frequently has scored Secretary Wallace for failure to do anything to advance the price of cotton and says he does not believe things will be better until prices go higher and costs of production and distribution, particularly freight rates, come down. The average price of cotton has been 3 cents a pound higher than in 1932, a good crop of peanuts is going to market at an average of \$17 per

bushel over a year ago. Peaches, tobacco and a few other crops brought higher prices this year. Georgia's pecan crop is almost double that of last year and initial prices are higher.

It would appear that Southeastern farmers, and particularly those of Georgia, are already receiving their share of this increased farm income. Certainly, in this section the farmer in some instances it is better," said Mr. Romans. "During the past three years many farm owners low prices. And while the farmer could not supply all the food and the feed required, and many tenants enough to feel prosperity he is now forced to learn how to 'live at home.'

"The government's delay in paying farmers who plowed up cotton has been magnified into a hardship because all needed the money and obtaining direct relief. If he gets expected it to be forthcoming immediately. In reality, they were work when he can get something soon as they began to sell their cotton, twelve or fourteen hours a last year. Eventually they will re-

N. Y. TIMES

NOV 5 1933

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"The government's delay in paying farmers who plowed up cotton has been magnified into a hardship because all needed the money and obtaining direct relief. If he gets expected it to be forthcoming immediately. In reality, they were work when he can get something soon as they began to sell their cotton, twelve or fourteen hours a last year. Eventually they will re-

work when he can get something for nothing. Neither will he toil ten, twelve or fourteen hours a day in the field if he can get three times what he would earn either working for the government or merely drawing relief funds and relief goods."

## Relief Rolls a Lure.

A great many of the tenant farmers in Georgia are Negroes, who never have been used to much money and have always had to work hard. The Governor believes the plan of direct and work relief is "utterly ruining" this type of short-term tenants in the farmer because he can get more in plan for long-term leases. He believes two days a week on the relief rolls believes that if this proposal succeeds than he could by working more it will go far in bettering the financial state of both owner and tenant.

Governor Talmadge believes the failure of the Federal Government to speed up payments to both the land owners and the tenants for the cotton acreage they plowed up last 700-mile tour of the State, reports Summer also has tended to cause that farmers as a whole are in better financial shape than they were last year. He attributes this improved agricultural condition now, but at the rate the government checks are arriving it will be only to increased prices but also to a long time before all of them get the fact that "they have produced what is coming to them."

"I told the farmers of Georgia that it was all right if they plowed up their cotton provided they wanted to," the Governor said. "I credit," said Mr. Adams. "So they neither endorsed nor condemned the plan, but I told them to get cash on the barrel head for the acreage they plowed up; this they failed to do, and as a consequence they and the whole State are suffering."

The Governor frequently has scored Secretary Wallace for failure to do anything to advance the price of cotton and says he does not believe things will be better until

prices go higher and costs of production and distribution, particularly freight rates, come down. The average price of cotton has been 3 cents a pound higher than in 1932, a good crop of peanuts is going to market at an average of \$17 per

bushel over a year ago. Peaches, tobacco and a few other crops brought higher prices this year. Georgia's pecan crop is almost double that of last year and initial prices are higher.

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**X-15** certain that higher prices have helped the Southeastern farmer elsewhere. For instance, the United States Department of Agriculture recently estimated that the gross farm income this year will be \$6,360,000,000, as compared with \$5,143,000,000 last year. The cotton acreage they plowed up last 700-mile tour of the State, reports Summer also has tended to cause that farmers as a whole are in better financial shape than they were last year. He attributes this improved agricultural condition now, but at the rate the government checks are arriving it will be only to increased prices but also to a long time before all of them get the fact that "they have produced what is coming to them."

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It would appear that Southeastern farmers, and particularly those of Georgia, are already receiving their share of this increased farm income. Certainly, in this section the farmer has apparently turned the corner where prosperity is said to be lurking in wait for the big bad wolf of low prices. And while the farmer in the Southeast may not be close enough to feel prosperity he is now able to get a glimpse of what that almost extinct creature looks like.

## SAVANNAH, GA.

### NEWS

AUG 23 1933

#### A WOMAN SHOWS THE WAY

A sound lesson in business management as well as an abundance of human interest permeated the story recently sent out from Mansfield, Ga., by the Associated Press about Mrs. Louis D. Bolton, wife of a Detroit business man, who found that long-distance management of a farm was unsuccessful and demonstrated that by returning to her ancestral plantation of 1,200 acres in Georgia and personally overseeing the operations she was able to convert the farm from a liability into an asset.

This woman, who is described as small in stature with unbobbed iron grey hair and twice a grandmother, is credited with having made the farm pay dividends during three years that saw commodity prices collapse, business stagnated and more experienced farmers cry for aid.

When she and her husband found the farm was losing money every year, she volunteered to return to the old plantation and take personal charge. All things considered, her success has been astonishing. Mrs. Bolton says cotton is still Georgia's main crop, but she raises quantities of sweet potatoes, corn, wheat and oats, as well; nearly 100 negroes, most of them descended from the family's slaves, still residing on the place.

The account reaching Savannah does not clearly state whether her husband was with her all the time during those three years. If he was, it would be interesting to know how his own business thrived during his absence from Detroit.

Anyhow, Mrs. Bolton's experience on the farm in Newton county, southeast of Atlanta, is another exemplification of the fact that to make a farm successful you must give it close-up attention and the same rule applies to any other kind of business, whether in the city or in the country.

Agriculture - 1933

Georgia

Condition of.

## What Are Ailments of Southern Farming and Possible Remedies?

A Forum of Opinion Conducted by Hiram R. Romans, Editor of The Southern Cultivator.

Evidently there was something wrong with southeastern agriculture nearly half a century ago and an attempt was made to correct these ailments with what success anyone may decide after reading the appended excerpt taken from an article published in the Southern Cultivator 44 years ago and comparing it with present conditions.

"1. Competition has been increased and margins reduced; western lands are fresh and transportation is cheap.

"2. Our lands are badly worn and wretchedly cultivated; the plant food in them is largely exhausted and small efforts are made to renew the supplies; light culture with heavy rains is moving the soil from uplands to bottoms and ruining the latter by obstructing the water sources.

"3. Idle capital of the most expensive kinds, such as hirelings and renters, who do very little work after crops are laid by or on rainy days, and during the winter months of December, January and February; also leaders of the top industries, high horses and oxen kept in the stalls schools, colleges and universities give through the winter doing little and them a higher education at the expense of the public, and this endowment of pastured; and untilled lands, all taxed, yet bringing in nothing.

"4. High rates of interest on advanced capital, which has often been discussed.

"5. No home markets are sought where minor products of the farm may be sold. At least, such markets \$3,000 or \$4,000 should be free of all taxation, and not subject to sale for debt or sold while the owner is in

cities, while tens of thousands of tons of a better product go to waste under the soil that it takes several years to build up the land, also vegetables and other products.

"6. A lack of enterprise and organizing power on the farm. Any ignorant negro may be placed in charge of a place, or a portion thereof, to butcher it as he pleases, and the boy who is too stupid or too ignorant for anything else is the one chosen to the price. Gravitation has never failed to succeed the parent farmer and manage the most important interest or to have a reasonable reaction from one to the other.

"7. General ignorance of the science and art of agriculture and also of demand inadequate. What is a demand?

"8. A lack of co-operation in producing and marketing. Farmers have all

rendered them powerless and frequently distrustful of everybody—even themselves."

Commenting upon the foregoing Mr. Hale says: "Regardless of the truth or untruth of the above description of Georgia agriculture 44 years ago, it is true that some of the same conditions prevail today. We have many reasons to believe that our future farmers, many of whom are now being trained in 4-H clubs and agricultural schools and colleges, will do a better job of farming than has been done in the past."

### PICTURE THE GROUNDWORK FOR UTOPIAN CONDITION

Editor Constitution: Please leave out the word "southern" in the query cost would be cut to the bone, your home would be safe and many other ailments?" and the problem may be more intelligently approached. Let us organize that each industry co-consider that agriculture is one of the nate with each other, that every person industries that compose the whole in-son will be needed on the pay roll. industrial world, as agriculture is the Labor is classed as an industry. This most important factory, used to pro-organizing should be done by a United States industrial commission. As the

some reward used to strengthen the average farmer works only about five under layer or the foundation of this months in the year, counting out sum-

whole structure. To bolster up the mer, winter and wet weather, his

leaders of the top industries, high hours of labor may not be included.

Technological unemployment will often in the summer are fed instead pence of the public, and this endow-ment or collateral is not subject to a tax, bankrupt laws and the sheriff.

To attract a better class to the farm, or to make better those on the farm, an inducement of some kind should be offered, and this also should apply to the small home owner. A farm or a home occupied by the owner, value of

may be sold. At least, such markets \$3,000 or \$4,000 should be free of all

are not cultivated or developed. Thou-sands of tons of imported hay are sold in our small towns, not to say debt.

Regarding prices of farm products, only supply and demand will regulate the price. Gravitation has never failed

anything else is the one chosen to the price. Gravitation has never failed to succeed the parent farmer and man-

age the most important interest or to have a reasonable reaction from one to the other.

The supply seems to be adequate; the laws of trade. Even the intelligent farmers generally have no spe-

cial education or training for their power." When labor was scarce, wages and salaries were high and cot-

ditions existing today prove that if we expect real relief. The spark a movement which has been proved without it the machine will remain solution to what certainly is Atlanta's definition of "demand" buying power which will overcome the inertia and or the means of payment, he has the desire to purchase, and if he obtains both, a demand is created and farm relief is past history; citizens are made good and not destroyed.

The cycle is not benefited or completed until every industry is so organized to co-ordinate with each other. Labor should be classed as the most important industry; each industry is so linked up with all other industries that when one industry is slowed down, the whole cycle is retarded or adjusted it will shake the whole machine to pieces. It seems that agriculture is very fragile and to keep it from going to pieces the adjustment will have to be made at the proper place.

Picture if you can that every able person was at work; what condition

would exist? No need for relief, court

"What is wrong with southern agricul-ture and what is the remedy for its good things would happen.

The hours of labor should be so or-destitute city-stranded families back to rent-free farms, at a low, nominal cost, will

save the city of Atlanta \$10,000 a year. Cost of transferring the fam-

ilies from Atlanta to the farms do-

noted for occupancy by owners, he

organization has been opposed each

time he has attempted to raise a suffi-

cient fund to send the public charges

back to the farms.

In this connection, Mr. LeCraw re-

vealed that recently a large midwest-

ern land concern wrote to Forward

Georgia, Inc., offering to furnish \$150

per family if the Atlanta organization

would undertake to transfer unem-

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settle on Georgia farms. The head of

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in the opinion that it was the only

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"We will always have some unem-

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5,000,000 to 7,000,000 unemployed,

years, wood, a garden, the use of tools to raise funds through city council them, Mr. LeCraw said his only mean

of conveying these persons and their belongings recently has been refused

by the city council. He pointed out that trucks of the city of Atlanta and Fulton county—have been placed on rent-free farms, and that only 10 of these families have returned to the city. The others are tilling the soil, producing a food crop and are rapidly becoming re-established as good farm community citizens, Mr. LeCraw said.

\$10,000 Saving Claimed.

On the most conservative estimate

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## Agriculture - 1933

Condition of.

## *What Are Ailments of Southern Farming and Possible Remedies?*

A Forum of Opinion Conducted by Hiram R. Romans  
Editor of The Southern Cultivator.

Evidently there was something wrong with southeastern agriculture nearly half a century ago and an attempt was made to correct these ailments with what success anyone may decide after reading the appended excerpt taken from an article published in the Southern Cultivator 44 years ago and comparing it with present conditions. C. A. Hale, one of the agricultural experts of the Georgia experiment station, in searching the files of The Southern Cultivator for the year of 1889, came upon this arraignment of agricultural conditions:

C. A. Hale

rendered them powerless and frequently distrustful of everybody—even themselves."

Commenting upon the foregoing Mr. Hale says: "Regardless of the truth or untruth of the above description of Georgia agriculture 44 years ago, it is true that some of the same conditions prevail today. We have many reasons to believe that our future farmers, many of whom are now being trained in 4-H clubs and agricultural schools and colleges, will do a better job of farming than has been done in the past."

"1. Competition has been increased and margin reduced; western lands are fresh and transportation is cheap.

"2. Our lands are badly worn and wretchedly cultivated; the plant food in them is largely exhausted and small efforts are made to renew the supplies; light culture with heavy rains is moving the soil from uplands to bottoms and ruining the latter by obstructing the water sources.

"3. Idle capital of the most expensive kinds, such as hirelings and renters, who do very little work after crops are laid by or on rainy days, and during the winter months of December, January and February; also horses and oxen kept in the stalls through the winter doing little and often in the summer are fed instead of pastured; and untilled lands, all taxed, yet bringing in nothing.

"4. High rates of interest on advanced capital, which has often been discussed.

"5. No home markets are sought where minor products of the farm may be sold. At least, such markets are not cultivated or developed. Thousands of tons of imported hay are sold in our small towns, not to say debt.

It is understood by people who understand the soil that it takes several years to build up the land, also experience, expense and labor, and

"6. A lack of enterprise and organizing power on the farm. Any ignorant negro may be placed in charge of a place, or a portion thereof, to butcher it as he pleases, and the boy who is too stupid or too ignorant for anything else is the one chosen to succeed the parent farmer and manage the most important interest or industry we have in Georgia. Regarding prices of farm products, only supply and demand will regulate the price. Gravitation has never failed to act, and that is a natural law: supply and demand has never failed to have a reasonable reaction from one to the other.

"7. General ignorance of the science and art of agriculture and also of demand inadequate. What is a demand? "A desire to purchase a commodity, accompanied with the buying power." When labor was scarce, vocation; at least far less than those wages and salaries were high and cotton, from 15 to 40 cents per pound.

of any other important business. ton from 15 to 40 cents per pound.  
"8. A lack of co-operation in pro-An old expression, "Cotton is King,"  
ducing and marketing. Farmers haveis all wrong; it seems employment is  
prided themselves too much in theirking, as we have plenty of cotton and  
independence and their isolation haswheat and very little employment, and

conditions existing today prove that if we expect real relief. The spark employment is the real cause of farm in the gas engine is very simple, but products being high in price and giving without it the machine will remain ing the farmer the latter part of the idle; employment may be the spark definition of "demand" buying power which will overcome the inertia and or the means of payment. he has the get business started.

"In the face of his concerted and antagonistic opposition," he pointed out, "I can see no hope to carry on a movement which has been proved one of the best—in fact, the only—solution to what certainly is Atlanta's outstanding problem."

W. B. NUNNALLY.

Rome, Ga

# **Back-to-Farm Plan Collapse Laid to Political Opposition**

Roy LeCraw, Leader of Movement, Scores Certain Fractions for Failure To Co-operate.

### **\$10,000 Saving Claimed**

\$10,000 Saving Claimed.

The back-to-the-farm movement, the head of the Forward Georgia launched last summer by the Cham-Inc., asserted, transfer of destitute member of Commerce in an effort to send agrarian families back to rent-free farms, at a low, nominal cost, will destitute city-stranded families back save the city of Atlanta \$10,000 a to the soil on rent-free farms, has year. Cost of transferring the fam collapsed because of lack of co-op-ilities from Atlanta to the farms do eration and outright opposition mounted for occupancy by owners, he the part of various factions in At-said, range from \$50 to \$75, yet his lanta organization has been opposed each

This statement was made Saturday time he has attempted to raise a sufficient fund to send the public charges of the chamber and president back to the farms.

dent of the chamber and president of the Forward Georgia, Inc. Mr. LeCraw was the outstanding leader in organizing the chamber's activities when the first group of families was sent back to farmlands, and has worked untiringly on the project for almost a year.

In this connection, Mr. LeCraw revealed that recently a large midwestern land concern wrote to Forward Georgia, Inc., offering to furnish \$150 per family if the Atlanta organization would undertake to transfer unemployed farm families from Chicago to

Failure of the plan to give a new deal to hundreds of destitute families was announced at a time when Forward Georgia, Inc., through Mr. LeCraw, had assurance of from 500 to 600 farms in Georgia offered rent

"We will always have some unemployment in the United States," Mr. LeCraw said. "It is becoming more and more evident that if normal, prosperous times were to return tomorrow, we would still have a

*Atlanta* to lie idle and unemployed. *Atlanta* morrow, we would still have from Due to the concerted opposition of 5,000,000 to 7,000,000 unemployed, various charity organizations, Mr. Le mostly ex-farmer families, for whom Craw announced, the back-to-the-farm there will never again be employment movement apparently has collapsed at in our industries. The only possible a time when approximately 1,400 Atlanta solution is to send these people back families, with no employment to the land."

The former president of the Atlanta chamber, who is present chairman of that organization's "Back-to-the-land" families, with no employment to the land, for their heads and no prospect of any employment, were clamoring for an opportunity to start life anew on Georgia farms.

**"Opposed by Politicians."** "This movement has had opposition from politicians who oppose it for political reasons," Mr. LeCraw charged. "It has had opposition from some property-owners in Atlanta who fear this exodus will leave vacant houses. It has had opposition from certain officials and employees of the emergency relief organization, and certain other professional social service workers who have been unsy- of that organization's 'Back-to-the-Farm' committee, told of the record of the Forward Georgia, Inc., which was reorganized from the old Forward Georgia committee of the trade body. "During the last eight months," he said, "we have moved to Georgia farms approximately 100 Atlanta families who were 100 per cent dependent upon charity, and thereby removed these people permanently from the charity and unemployed rolls of Atlanta and made them self-sustaining

A number of families whose furniture is packed up in Atlanta tenement houses, its owners waiting to be moved back to farms ready to receive them, have now have 1,400 families registered with us who desire to return to Atlanta.

Obstacles Deplored. Mr. LeCraw deplored the deteriorating faster vacant than if occupied. These landowners, therefore, net with in the efforts of his have wanted tenant families and have nation to relieve the city of offered free rent for two or three human burden—a burden.

farms," he related. "We also have 500 or 600 farms to which we could return these families if we could move them and give them some little assistance until they raise just a food crop. The total cost of this will run from \$50 to \$75 per family, which is considerably less than the same family would cost the city of Atlanta in one year if it remains here on charity."

#### Social Workers "Unsympathetic."

He then charged opposition and among these farmers are "letting down their buckles, officials of the Emergency Relief Committee and "certain other professionals social service workers, who have been unsympathetic," and added: "help from the government.

"A study of the records of the charities of this town reveals that the people cannot borrow themselves out of ease load has been steadily increasing every year since the Atlanta Community Chest was first formed, and it is an undoubted fact that the very debt. Debts are a millstone around the specialized and professional social necks of the people. To continue to go in service assistance that is offered the debt will not cure the trouble but will only thousands of people in Atlanta make it worse.

open invitation to these unfortunate people to lean on the agencies, and this has resulted in a tremendously increased charity load which has been hardships and suffered privations. But they come so heavy that now approximately every three citizens in Atlanta are supporting one person through taxation and voluntary gifts. This load undoubtedly will break the backs of our citizens before long and will load Atlanta down with a hierarchy of unemployed and charity cases that we will never get rid of.

"Our efforts up to this time have been purely palliative and not constructive. The way out is to send these people back to the farms, and we can do so and save money."

#### Proposition Summed Up.

Mr. LeCraw offered three statements which, he said, sum up the proposition. They were as follows: "1. There are approximately 60,000 to 70,000 unemployed and charity cases in Atlanta. Of this number about one-third are unemployable i.e., aged, diseased or orphans. The remaining two-thirds are employable jobless persons and their families. Of these at least 50 per cent are ex-farmers and will welcome an opportunity to get back to the farm.

"2. The counties from which these ex-farmers migrated to Atlanta have shown decreased prosperity in almost exact ratio to their decreased population. These rural counties need these farmer families back.

"3. These stranded ex-farmer families now on charity doles here in Atlanta are now beginning to realize that the city or its industries can not provide them employment for many years to come. They despise the dole type of charity and will welcome a chance to return to the land."

The lead of the Forward Georgia, Inc., cited statistics showing the trend of population from the farms to the cities. In 1870, his figures showed, 72 per cent of the population of the United States lived on farms. In 1932 only 21.3 per cent of the population was rural.

Dawson, Ga., News  
Thursday, March 2, 1933

## Working on the Right Plan.

From the Jackson Progress-Argus.

The news item from South Georgia to would cost the city of Atlanta in one effect that negro farmers of Lee county year if it remains here on charity." are plowing steers instead of mules should

money to be turned loose here would rise in the price of cotton this fall. be spent for fertilizer for 1933 crops and for stock feed, while some would be spent for various other purposes stipulated in the requirements, all pertaining to actual operating of farms for 1933 production.

The "live at home" program again will be featured among farmers in the Augusta trade territory this year, with the axiom "A little cotton here and there; plenty of vegetables and feed stuff everywhere" applied in general.

Favorable weather the past week or ten days has enabled farmers in this territory to break the land for planting, and corn is being planted throughout the outlying districts this week. Some corn was put in the ground last week near Augusta, McConnell said.

He advised cotton farmers to wait until April 5 or between April 5 and 10, before putting seed in the ground. "I do not believe in planting cotton early," he said.

Farm agents throughout Dixie this season will urge farmers stronger than ever to "plant enough feed to keep your mules alive through the winter and spring" this year.

Application blanks proved that 75 per cent of the farmers owned stock and nothing to feed them on.

"A pitiable circumstance but true," remarked McConnell. "Some day they will learn."

Millen, Ga., News

Thursday, March 9, 1933

## GOOD ADVICE FOR NEGRO FARMERS

(By E. L. Cooper, Colored Farm Agent)

A series of eight Outlook Meetings are being held for the Negro farmers of Burke and Jenkins Counties. The purpose of these meetings is to let farmers know the trend of prices and to present to them a practical farm program that will ensure a living for their families in spite of low prices. At Kelsey's Academy where one of these meetings was held 64 farmers were present. The General farm outlook was discussed by P. H. Stone, State Agent for Negro Work in Georgia. He emphasized the fact that "The man that is making com-

ATLANTA, GA.  
CONSTITUTION

MAY 7 1933

#### THE NEGRO AND THE FARM.

An urgent plea that the great mass of negroes now idle in the cities of the south be sent to agricultural sections, from which many of them came, is voiced in a communication, appearing on the opposite page, from Rev. D. D. Crawford, general secretary of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia.

This wise negro leader points out that the negro occupies a secondary position to the skilled labor of the cities, and that on the farm he will find his best opportunity for independence, prosperity and contentment.

The soundness of this position is proven by such negro colonies as the one in Hancock county which last year opened a community center, with a handsome community house offering many educational and entertainment features which are available to few negroes living in the cities.

In such colonies the negro can find the ultimate in freedom of action, contentment and opportunity for improvement—things he can hope to achieve in the city only after long years of endeavor, if ever. As Rev. Crawford says, in the city skilled labor has "beasted the negro as a mass, but nobody can beat them on the farm."

Not only the negroes, but the communities from which they would go and the sections to which they would move, would be benefited by such a mass movement as that suggested in the Crawford communication. It would mean more jobs for those left in the cities and more taxes and more patrons for the stores in their new surroundings.

### Land Broken For Planting as More Farmers Seek U. S.

T. 28 Aid

Sixty per cent of the farmers of Richmond county applying for feed and seed loans this year are Negroes according to Bright McConnell, county farm agent.

Twenty-five per cent of those applying this year were not in the line in 1932, and the number of blanks filled out and forwarded to Washington, D. C., total 368, or nearly 100 more than last year.

The first money mailed out of Washington for distribution in Georgia left Washington Tuesday night, McConnell said, announcing that he expected to receive answers to applications from Richmond the latter part of this week.

McConnell said a majority of the that there will be no appreciable

Agriculture

Iowa

Condition of  
**SIOUX CITY, IA.**

**TRIBUNE**

tell you that nothing short of compulsory measures would induce some of them to do the square thing by the black folks.

**JUL 3 1932**

**COTTON PLAN AND NEGROES.**

**G**overnment is asking southern cotton farmers to destroy 25 per cent of their cotton acreage, for which it proposes to pay them outright in cash approximately \$100,000,000. This involves withdrawal from cultivation of about 10,000,000 acres of land.

This much land would employ, when planted to cotton, about 300,000 Negro families. Unless some provision is made for the disbursement of the \$100,000,000 which Secretary Wallace plans to apportion, so that some of it will go to these Negroes, the south will have a social problem on its hands.

The bulk of the cotton crop is raised by Negro tenant farmers, the land being apportioned among them on the basis of about 30 acres to the family. That sized tract generally will furnish employment for both parents and the children and a mule or two. Even in years of good yields and high prices, the tenant farmer's share of the proceeds is not very large.

Unless provision is made for passing some of the benefits of curtailment along to the Negro tenants, there will be real suffering in the "black belt" of the south. Southern landlords are notoriously ungenerous in dealing with their Negro tenants. Generally speaking, the south's economic system is so devised that the black man still is kept in a condition approximating slavery. The southern Negro did not gain economic independence along with political independence—and he has very little political independence.

For the good of the south and the country in general, it is desirable that the government does not overlook making provision to compel the southern landlords to share their crop control patrimony with the black workers. One who knows the general attitude of plantation owners toward their workers will

Agriculture-1933  
Condition of

Mississippi.

# Spirits Rise With Cotton In Delta of Mississippi      Negroes Pick and Plow Cotton In Same Fields in Deep South

Jubilation Reigns in Every Stratum of Society Throughout Region Where Ten Cents for Staple Crop Means Better Times for Black and White

holding protracted meetings. "The earth is bountiful, indeed." GREENVILLE, Miss., June 26 (P) "Paw says he'll get a dime for cotton went to 10c a pound today. his cotton," say the little Negroes as they fish for crawfish and gig frogs in the swamps.

And there was jubilation down here where the staple means a "Cotton's up," say the steamboat a roof over the head and beans in pilots, "and this land is happy. Blow your whistle, boys, for we're heading for a landing."

"Ten cent cotton!" It's more than a market quotation. "There's magic guess," says the railroad engineers in the words and music in the syllables.

The pulse of the Delta, where cotton growing is a habit and merri-ton, coming down the pike." ment is a way of life, rises and falls with the cotton market and stalks, their hoes keeping perfect time with a song that's as old as falling. The market is rising. And the delta:

"Ten cent cotton and twenty cotton has come again into his own. cent meal; you go to heaven if you

"Cotton, suh, has gone to 10c," pray, and to jail if you steal."

say the planters as they sit on the verandah after supper and discuss the new of the day, while the ice cane takes up the song. The sweet

tinkles merrily in their glasses. potato gang hears the echo across

"We got 10c cotton, fellas," say the bayou and chants the tune. the white boys as they lay on the levees and watch the big boats chorus. Old men sit on the cabin push up the river to Memphis to gallery and pat their feet. The children picking peas join the New Orleans to get cotton and chug checked aprons and sway to the up the bayous to get the same tune.

Even the Mule Reacts  
"Hey, hey — ten-cent cotton," shouts the head man of the plantations as he lines up his plowmen. "Bust dat dirt and save the earth-worms, 'caus' de catfish is bitin' and I've got a mess of whippoor-will peas and side meat on the kitchen stove."

"Hey, hey," chant the plowmen. "Git along, mules, 'caus' we got ten cent cotton and gotta git a bale to de acre."

Even the mules—some have wide straw hats perched over their ears to keep off the blistering sun-step lively. "Yaas suh," shout the men, "git going down dat furrow, mule, and if you steps on the cotton I sends you to de boneyard."

"The folks say cotton's gone to ten cent," say the Negro mammies as they bustle about the kitchens, baking stacks of biscuits and four-layer cakes. "It means a bolt of gingham for me, some overalls for my man and some ribbon for the chillun. I se going to town Sa'day."

"Cotton, my friends, is selling for 10c again," say the preachers as they ride over the gumbo land,

## Poignant Drama Seen in Destroying Blooms in Areas Where Crops Were Nursed Before Acreage Plan Began

By James H. Street

Associated Press Staff Writer

PICAYUNE, MISS., Aug. 12—They're picking cotton and killing cotton on the same land down South.

And because there's an affinity between a man and his cotton, there's poignant drama in the show.

Up the rows go the pickers at dawn as they go about their tasks in ad—"Hey, hey, whar's we gwine"—back joining patches. The pickers have long heavy sacks. They work with both hands, skillfully pulling the fiber from ned pounds, clean as a houn's tooth." the bolls. Big wagons lumber through An army of women and children it is the fields. The hands weigh their cotton on the end of the wagons and that bends its back and humps its shoulders to the tortuous labor of "How much you got thar?" asks the weigher.

At the same time, within shouting distance, the plowmen are going up and sundown, and boy do mah

the middle furrow—"bust hit up and "Ise got two hun'ned," says a let hit lie"—the heavy blades cut woman hand. "Heah I is pickin' cot-through the roots of the tender stalks ton and mah man's ovah yonder a—"de Gov'ment say hit's gotta die." plowin' hit up. Mister weigher, this

The acreage retirement plan did not heah's a crazy world!"

get under way fully in the mule, mud. They work in the fields until the and mortgage belt before the bolls cows start lowing at twilight, until started bursting into cotton. The locusts sing an elegy to the day planters had agreed to cut their crop, and the katydids chirp for the night. So there was nothing to do but kill Up one furrow—"git along that the plants even while some stalks mule"—down the next—"lawdy, lawdy —wu'k all yeah to make a crop and heah I is killin' mah cotton—haw tar mule."

It's just a cold, economic experiment for the Government. But it's a dreary task for those who fought the rivers and worked the levees, plowed the ground and prayed for rain, but not too much rain, and nursed the cotton like it were a spoiled child.

Even Secretary Wallace felt a tug at his heart as he stood in the delta and watched giant tractors and discs chew the long staple to ribbons and saw it wilt like orange leaves before a lightwood fire.

The Negro plowmen are singing blues songs now about "plowin' hit up and stompin' hit down." Even the mules know something is amiss. They have been trained for generations to walk down the middle of the furrow.

Now they get closer to the cotton than their training prescribed. They balk at the job. No self-respecting cotton mule ever stepped on a stalk and now some have to straddle a row.

The plowmen and the pickets "jo-ree"—that means banter—one another

## 128 SOME COTTON PICKING

Lots of people have the idea that all darkies are just naturally shiftless and lazy, but this theory has been quite

fully demonstrated to be erroneous, according to W. S. Bond, a prominent farmer of near Dothan, Ala., who cer-tified to some cotton picking records made by young negroes on his farm this season, as follows:

Willie James Grimsley, aged 17, picked 628 pounds in one day.

E. V. Grimsley, aged 15, picked 601 pounds in one day.

Mary Lou Grimsley, aged 14, picked 492 pounds in one day.

Harvey Grimsley, aged 16, picked 492 pounds in one day.

William Henry, aged 12, picked 409 pounds in one day.

Jack Grimsley, aged 18, picked 497 pounds in one day. When it is considered that from 50 to 80 separate bolls of cotton must be gathered to make a pound, it must be admitted that these negro youngsters moved about some to make such records.

Talladega, Ala., Home  
November 27, 1933

**NEGRO TENANT**

**AND COTTON.**

no obstructionists. We feel, as we felt in 1917, that many things now being done are war measures.

We are merely taking an emergency detour, and after passing it

Harris Dickson, well-known magazine contributor of Vicksburg has an article in the current number of The Country Home de-

picting the possibly sad fate of relations and no evictions by land-several hundred thousand negro tenants are anticipated in this section. There is a year due to the sweeping cut in the cotton acreage. Mr. Dickson says, "our lands planted to cotton will work a smaller acreage. Every will be cut from 40,000,000 to 25,000,000 acres. Nobody can predict the myriad possibilities ofpers, and the usual amount of this program.

"swapping around" will, no

"What can the South do with 15 millions idle acres? To let quite probable that the inefficient them lie fallow seems economic and shiftless negro will feel the waste. We might grow more corn effects of the curtailed production and deprive Illinois of a market movement, but the negro tenant

We might raise our own mules who is dependable will live pretty

and hear Missouri howl. Or grow much as he has always done.

wheat and not buy flour from the

Dakotas. Whatever the South does with her vacant spaces may easily create a new problem for some other American farmer.

"Planters, however, are thinking mostly of their negroes, wondering where these cast-out black people can turn to sustain themselves. A veteran plantation owner, who has plowed up 1600 acres wants to know what is to become of his tenants and croppers.

"Our negroes are absolutely untrained to anything except cotton. They never trouble Trouble until Trouble troubles them. Then they grin at old man Trouble and ramble away. Ramble away?

Where to?

"A queer psychology is simmering in the South. Men who live close to the soil are natural conservatives, and every planter that I know, without exception, is on principle opposed to governmental price-fixing, for cotton or anything else. Nevertheless we have

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Condition of.

# PETERSBURG, VA PROGRESS-INDEX

SEP 17 1933

# Tobacco-Growers, Manufacturers and Government

[N ONE of the North Carolina counties lives a Negro farmer who is wondering whether thrift actually pays. In 1917 his colored man, who is a good tobacco-grower, purchased a farm for \$4,000. He made a cash payment of \$2,000 and the deferred payments are represented by notes of equal amounts secured by a mortgage on the farm. He managed to keep up the interest payments on the notes for a good many years, but finally, owing to the low prices received for his tobacco, he was unable to do even that much. The mortgage holder has foreclosed or is about to do so. And the Negro seems in a fair way to lose his farm, including the \$2,000 down payment. The Raleigh *News & Observer*, in commenting upon this incident, referred to the extraordinary profits made by the great corporations producing tobacco products. The total bright tobacco crop of North Carolina brought a little more than \$30,000,000 last year. Each of several of the companies engaged in producing cigarettes and other products of tobacco paid out in dividends more than the growers received for the entire North Carolina crop.

It has seemed to us that in view of the extraordinarily heavy Federal tax imposed upon cigarettes, cigars and smoking tobacco, that the Federal government properly could be expected to do more in aid of the tobacco-grower than any other agricultural producer.

**GASTONIA, N. C.  
GAZETTE**

SEP 30 1933  
L. & S. CO. W. J. SS -

(Moore County News.)

(Moore County News.)  
It is related on a former Moore county time merchant that he supplied a young negro farmer through a crop season. The farmer had a good year and settled promptly with the time merchant. After paying his bill he walked across the street to another store and began making extensive cash purchases. The time merchant, who watched him go to the store of his competitor and walk out with an armful of goods, began to chide the man. "Look here," he said, "I have been carrying you all of the year and this is a fine way to show your appreciation, spending your cash with my competitor." "Lawsy, boss," replied the astonished negro, "I sure am sorry. I didn't know you sold for cash!"

**ROCKY MOUNT, N. C**  
**TELEGRAM**

**TELEGRAM**

SEP 30 1933

## Farm Replacements

was no work. They couldn't go back to farms

**Farm Replacements** was no work. A movement to return hundreds of tenant because landlords were not interested in tenants farmers, who came to industrial centers for who could not provide their own food. They employment and who have been caught in the were forced to rely upon relief agencies and to ebb tide of idleness, to the soil will be under- subsist on the dole.

taken in North Carolina under the planning of Commissioner Fletcher, of the Department of his food and feed crops, limit his money crops Labor. Such a program, if it were made to apply to the maximum deemed sound, he will find at ply to whites and Negroes, would relieve the the end of the year bins filled with food and a relief agencies of much of their present re-little money in his pockets, at any rate. Con- responsibilities. Of course no promises should be quently, he will be far better off in the economic made to tenant farmers who may be returned system than he is at the present. And that is that any unlimited prosperity awaits them, but something.

that any unlimited prosperity awaits them, but they can have the assurance of plenty to eat and some money in addition, more than relief agencies are able to afford them now. Laurinburg, N. C. Exchange December 28, 1933

December 26, 1955

# Thinks Negroes Would Do Well On Farms

Thinks Economic Salvation for  
Black Man in Plan to Give  
Him Start on the Farm

The trek to urban centers in recent years, not a matter of such grave concern in North Carolina because of the lack of big cities, presents a question of real importance to men who are seeking to bring order into the economic life of a country. We are seeking to eliminate surpluses in every field. A surplus of labor in a community presents an important relief problem, one that cannot be ignored.

If more farmers are sent to the soil, it may mean an increase in tobacco and cotton production at a time when more production is not needed, but it does not necessarily mean that. There is ample room for the production of crops not now grown in excess in North Carolina. Only a few months ago we had an opportunity to discuss with a number of unemployed people causes for their idleness. In many instances they were not in the least to blame; in other cases they were victims of a tenant farm system and had not employed their own initiative to adjust themselves. A number, after producing crops of cotton and tobacco, found that the sale price of the two crops was not enough to pay their debts to landlords. They faced the next year in debt and were without means of providing food and clothing during the Winter. They moved to town in search of work. There

The plan to reduce unemployment in the North by returning thousands of Negroes to the farms in the South, as reported recently in your paper by Mr. Mark Sullivan, would be hailed with delight and profit by thousands and thousands of self-respecting Negroes provided: The government and philanthropy would first prepare a place for them. "Back to the Farm," "Stay on the Farm" was the advice and admonition of Booker T. Washington, the greatest Negro Moses the Negro people have ever had. If the black man on the farm will farm to make a living he will get wealthy, but if he farms to get rich he will make a failure.

There are ten sof thousands of acres of fertile farm lands in the South capable of producing fifty bushels of corn, or fifty bushels of wheat, or two tons of hay or a bale of cotton an acre, that can be bought for \$2 an acre, and thousands of acres can be bought even for the taxes an acre. Now if the United States government or philanthropy will buy up these lands, divide them into small farms, say of thirty or forty acres to the farmer, equip them with houses,

the West will never be concerned barns, stables, mules, farm implements, feed stuff for stock and rations for farmers for the first six months, place the farms under superintendents, charge of the government like the competent farm Indians on their reservation, that then charge the farmers a rate of cost our government millions of annual rent for the lands that will dollars for their upkeep; but in the course of specified time be Negroes would constitute colonies equal to the cost of the investment, of independent farm land owners, and when all rentals are paid give the farmer a fee simple deed for the land—I warrant you if there would be no peonage, debt the farmer a fee simple deed for slavery, lynching, mob violence, nor said farm land—Nor the South, the East, nor

intermarriage, and it would be the first opportunity that the Negro crop.

farmer would have to carry out the injunction of our great North Carolina Governor, Gardner, "Live at the race's inability to give high Home."

I have permission from Mr. Hugh McRae, capitalist of Winston, N. C., and greatest farm colonizer for whites in eastern Carolina, to say; that he indorses such a plan for the Negro farmer of the South and feels certain in a very short time he would become self sustaining and sometimes wealthy.

I am submitting a concrete example that I can verify, of what it would mean to the black man, if the government would use its relief money in aiding the black man to get back on the farm.

W. P. EVANS.

There is in North Carolina certain colored man who was in business but depression divested him of all his holdings except courage, industry, and pluck. In the first of this year 1933, he negotiated with a land bank which had foreclosed the mortgage on a plantation. The bank sold him the place, by the payment of a small initial payment which the man borrowed. The bank gave the man 15 years to pay the balance of the purchase price.

This man went to work on the farm, borrowed \$1,000 from the Farm Loan Bank, pitched his crops of corn, oats, cotton, wheat and watermelons, on November 15, paid the Farm Loan Bank every dollar with interest he had borrowed, paid the Land Bank his instalment payment with interest, paid the state all taxes due, sold 72 bales of cotton, weighing 500 pounds each, harvested 1,250 bushels of corn and peas, and is now sowing oats and wheat for the 1934 harvest.

There are thousands of Negroes, many of whom are better practical and experienced farmers than this colored business man is, who would do comparatively as well if not better if the NRA would come with a little first aid cash assistance. I know of 2,000 acres of fine farm lands in Scotland and Robeson counties for sale under mortgages that if owned by the NRA and cut up in small farms, rehabilitated and sold to farmers on easy terms would immediately take 500 people off of the dole or relief list.

I want to say here for the information of citizens who might seem inclined to rush the Negroes back South in train loads and cargoes that because of the white farmland owners' failure "to farm to make a living" that most of them are so impoverished that they are unable to furnish their Negro tenants who have five and six in the family any more than \$1.50 to \$2.50 a week a family during the six months of fourteen hours a day

## North Carolina.

Agriculture-1933  
Condition of.

Burlington, N. C. Times  
April 12, 1933

### THE NEXT STEP FOR N. C.

Altho North Carolina has the second largest farm population in the nation it is near the bottom of the list in labor saving devices employed on the farm. The Raleigh News and Observer thinks that this is the next step for North Carolina in the future and says:

President Roosevelt's program for the development of the Tennessee basin is both a great job and a great program for the South. From it men who have studied the plan expect great advantages to accrue to all the Southern country involved, of which Western North Carolina is a part. It is hoped that it will mean much for the farmers of the South, who have probably received less benefit from the mechanical advances of our time and the development of power to relieve man of drudgery than any other people in the nation.

Last week the News Letter, of Chapel Hill, published figures showing that North Carolina, with the second largest farm population in the nation, was near the bottom of the list among the States in the use of labor-saving devices upon the farms. In the matter of primary horsepower available per farm worker the State has less than a third of the national average. Only five States, all with larger Negro ratios, average less machinery per farm worker. The result is that the output per farm worker in North Carolina is small compared with the output in those States where human labor has been reinforced with labor-saving machinery.

In the electrification of the farm, too, North Carolina is far behind the national average. Of the 284,000 farms in the State at the end of 1930, only 6,823 had the benefits of electri-

fication. The per cent of total farms electrified in the State was only 2.4, and then the road. The next step in as compared with 10.2 throughout the United States.

Under Governor Roosevelt in New York great advance has been made in giving to the farmers of the State the advantages both for comfort and for work of electric light and power. In Alabama the State Public Service Commission and the Alabama Power Company have worked together in solving the problem of providing electricity to the farm. In South Carolina a commission has made a thoughtful study of the problem. In North Carolina, except for independent activities by power companies, the problem remains to be considered.

Yet few problems today are more important. The reduction of farm costs and the elimination of much of farm drudgery must be one of the immediate goals of the State. Cheap farm power may be made available as a result of the Tennessee basin development. Independent power companies may give substantial service to the sections they serve by working to its solution. Kerr Scott, master of the State Grange, regards it as one of the great questions for the future.

"Give the farmer a good school, a good road and electrification," he said, "and there will be no comparison between life on the farm and life in the town."

There are difficulties in the way but the advantages are manifest. In four years Alabama multiplied the number of its farms having electric lights and power twenty times. North Carolina can do as much. And no other work which North Carolina could do today would give as much economic help and domestic happiness to the thousands of people in North Carolina who live upon the farm.

As Mr. Scott says, first the school and then the road. The next step in the advance is the blessing of cheap light and power.

### GREENSBORO, N. C. RECORD

MAR 23 1933

#### "Forty Acres and a Mule."

"Forty acres and a mule."

Carpetbaggers swarming as vultures into the south in reconstruction days to get rich and to grab public offices lured the votes of negroes, but a few days out of slavery, with a golden promise—though a false and cruel one. The plan, said the carpetbaggers, was for the federal government to give every negro 40 acres and a mule.

Now that the government has promised seed and fertilizer loans an authority on Negro business than James A. Jackson to farmers some of the Gullah of the United States Department of Commerce, who has negroes of the South Carolina low country have revived the old legend—40 acres and a mule, says an Associated Press dispatch from Edisto Island.

"To them," says the dispatch, "the jubilee year is at hand—the wilderness is conquered, and Pharaoh is 'gonna leave God's children' alone." Some of the unlettered Gullahs believe the heavens are about to rain the manna of luxury

and leisure. So, quite naturally, they're happy. Leaders of the race, however, are explaining that the government will help only those who help themselves.

The Gullahs are expecting great things, but, as the Associated Press story indicates, they are wise, for "... even the expectant ones are breaking their lands for this year's crops."

Many will laugh at the poor ignorant Gullahs for expecting so much from the government. But willing to wager that in ninety per cent of the cases the they are much wiser than many chances of success depend more on the farmer than on the thousands of other citizens who are farm, and that individual initiative or the lack of it will receiving government aid.

The Gullahs are "breaking their lands for this year's crops." Thus they are moving to help themselves. Thousands are willing to stand bacis more important.

and let the government provide for them without turning a hand to help themselves. Not so with the Gullahs. If they get "Forty acres and a mule"—fine! That will be so much velvet. But if they don't, there'll be the crops they are planting. Wise Gullahs.

### Is Mr. Jackson Right?

*Open season*  
The back-to-the-farm movement as a solution to our economic problems has long been a source of controversy among our leaders and educators who have advanced apparently irrefutable arguments both pro and con.

It was a surprise to many last week when no less than James A. Jackson, authority on Negro business, said that the Jubilee year is at hand—the wilderness is conquered, and Pharaoh is "gonna leave God's children" alone. Some of the unlettered Gullahs believe the heavens are about to rain the manna of luxury and leisure. So, quite naturally, they're happy. Leaders of the race, however, are explaining that the government will help only those who help themselves.

While we believe Mr. Jackson forgot for the moment that Maryland's Eastern Shore where the academy is located is not far removed in its primitiveness and hundreds from the backwoods of Georgia and Alabama, we are forced to concede him one point that comes from a wholly unsolicited source.

From obscure Lillington, North Carolina, comes the report of William Steel, 23-year-old farmer who on a small plot 150 feet by six feet has raised and sold during the past month 89,000 tomato plants and 180,000 cabbage plants, supplying farmers of both races in three states.

Farmer Steel, by scientific application, shows what can be done on a farm, however small, and his time is more profitably spent than it would be hanging around a city pool-room wondering why somebody doesn't give him a job.

Mr. Jackson's argument may be sound, but we're produce successes or failures in the backwoods in the same ratio as these essentials produce successes or fail-they are moving to help themselves. It is the individual, not the place that thousands are willing to stand bacis more important.

# Negro Teachers of Agriculture Complete a Successful Year

Negro teachers of vocational agriculture have completed one of the most successful years in the history of the work according to Prof. S. B. Simmons, supervisor of the work throughout the state have emphasized in the negro schools. The annual report which has just been completed tells of the many outstanding achievements accomplished by this group of negro farm leaders.

During the year 1930-31 there were 69 different types of schools conducted in the state. The number for 1932-33 has increased to 104. In 1930-31 there were 1,750 persons receiving instruction. This year the number has increased to 2,464 individuals.

The project labor income for this year is \$10,148.03 greater than it was last year. In the second state wide "3 to 1" corn contest several individuals produced more than 90 bushels of corn per acre. The highest individual yield the year before was 74 bushels per acre.

Great headway has been made in getting negro farmers to produce purebred crops and livestock. A striking example of work of this nature was accomplished in the John R. Hawkins high school in Warren county. Forty-seven members of the evening class grew Improved Highland Staple cotton. Not only were their yields in most cases larger than those of other farmers, but in addition they received \$3.00 more per acre. The biggest achievement in that direction has been the cooperative purchase of cotton gin. Last year the gin turned out more than 500 bales accord-

ing to state standards for ginning.

Farmers were the first to have the pure bred cotton for seed purposes to conduct a state wide camp for These seeds are supplied other farm boys. On last Thanksgiving

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success of this group has been in bringing cheer and happiness to

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Negro farm women as well as men of their farm produce with the less

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of the college to the state inasmuch as 4 per cent of the teachers received all or part of their training at this institution.

Laurinburg, N. C. Exchange

June 30, 1933

## COLORED FARMERS

### ASKED TO CO-OPERATE IN COTTON CAMPAIGN

Will Attend Meetings This Weekend the like.

and Get Benefit of Acreage Reduction Plans

Colored farmers of Scotland county are asked to co-operate in the acreage reduction campaign being waged this week and next. The following statement is addressed to them by Prof. Jno. W. Wray, of the Laurinburg Normal and Industrial Institute:

In the shops the boys have made many useful articles for their homes which they would not otherwise have, and Industrial Institute:

due to lack of funds. The teacher "I received a letter from Mr. Roy H. Thomas, supervisor of agricultural education, asking him to agricultural education, asking him to equip and operate his shop. Just before Christmas a number of colored agricultural teachers' chests were made for a near by fam-county agent in putting over the

cotton acreage reduction campaign, and he was scheduled for the letter came too late for me to call separate meetings of the colored farmers, and too, there was not but one representative in most of the electrical equipment. Many useful articles from sand sent from the department of agriculture at Raleigh to help Mr. Pace and Mr. Peeler in this cam-

paige, and he was scheduled for development of the year has been with white farmers. So were Mr. Pace and Mr. Peeler. And I de- bale. Under the leadership of Prof. C. S. Wynn these farmers are striv- organization known as New Farmers of America. Dr. H. O. Sargent, so short, that it would be best to call on the colored farmers to out the county. Their biggest achievement in that direction has been the cooperative purchase of a pace on many objectives for the na- cotton gin. Last year the gin turned out more than 500 bales accord-

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be established soon. What the stunt will amount to is simply this: 3

Land will be obtained on the edge of a city and will be subdivided into small farms of one, two or three acres. A small home, perhaps to cost \$3,000, will be established on each plot. In the middle of the colony will be a store, a playground and social hall,

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Agriculture - 1933

Condition of

Winston Salem, N. C.  
JOURNAL

FEB 9 1933

Urge Co-operation in  
Negro Farmers' Rally

To the Editor of The Journal:

At 1 p. m. today the Negroes will have a farmers' rally at Rural Hall. At this meeting they plan to study farming as it pertains principally to spring planting for truck gardens that his crops, when sold, were dis-At 8 p. m. they will meet at the courthouse in Winston-Salem to re-kets. This was used as an indication express their appreciation for operation of both white and colored citizens in that big project. I say big project, because it was, last year, just that, with a capital B.

Music, speeches, and opening discussions will feature these meetings. I hope white people who are interested in civic, economic and practical ideas will attend these meetings and show by their presence that they are in full accord with what these Negroes are doing.

Do you know how many there are in Winston-Salem and what plans they have for living and moving among us? You will be astonished perhaps, if you look in on them at some of their group meetings. Seeing is believing and this applies to their believing you care, when they see you present at places, when they

invited you to come and see, so you may believe.

We get so excited often over thrilling stories told, and articles written about conditions and accomplishments of Negroes in Africa, or even in America, but when they get as close as our own public square, we cool off and simply take them for granted.

Let's give them a glad hand at Rural Hall today at 1 o'clock and night at the courthouse. These are leaders of their race—the men and women to whom we are indebted for the best citizenship among them. They deserve our full moral support.

—MRS. J. E. SILLS.  
Winston-Salem, N. C.  
Feb. 8, 1933.

RICHMOND, VA.  
TIMES DISPATCH

FEB 14 1933  
"Back to the Farm"

of a sale for fruit, but the wife kept on planting and kept on saving away considerable apples and what they had grown. This about 30 bushels of peaches the negro family is just one example of neighbors. She also sold \$7 worth what a family in very humble circumstances was able to do and we vegetables. She would have canned have other examples equally as more but had filled up all the cans good. Those of our people who she could get. They have 50 hens, grew what they could and saved all 11 guineas, 5 hogs, two cows and the food and feed possible are in a two "banks" of potatoes. There favorable condition so far as living are plenty of corn and peas saved concerned."

Sir,—In your paper appeared an article concerning the Negro farmer "We had a dry season all over and the many handicaps he encounters in marketing his products. Also Plummer, "but most of our folks

Vance county last year," says Mrs. Kept on planting and kept on saving what they had grown. This Negro family is just one example of what a family in very humble

circumstances was able to do and saving basis for advice. Mr. Jones evi-good. Those of our people who

gently does not have sufficient knowl-grew what they could and saved

edge of the situation to warrant suchall the food and feed possible are

in a favorable condition so far as

Lexington, N. C. Dispatch

Monday, February 13, 1933

Negro Gives Example of  
Subsistence Farming

It was a lucky day for Phil Reed, a negro farmer in Vance county, when a local nurseryman decided to employ him to give sufficient space for a few years ago to quit the business of raising a garden? Why does President-elect Roosevelt inaugurate a few dollars?

The answer is quite obvious, and it does not require the knowledge of a doctor of philosophy to see it.

GENERAL JOHNSON.  
Amburg, Feb. 13

NEGRO GIVES EXAMPLE OF FARMING

It was a lucky day for Phil Reed, a Negro farmer in Vance county, when a local nurseryman decided a few years ago to quit the business and sell out his left-over stock for a few dollars.

As a result, says Mrs. Hattie F. Plummer, Vance county home agent Reed's wife this past summer canned 303 quarts of fruits and vegetables, made 14 gallons of preserves and jelly and saved two bushels of dried apples and one bushel of dried peaches.

The family could not find much of a sale for fruit, but the wife gave away considerable apples and about 30 bushels of peaches to neighbors. She also sold \$7 worth of fruit and \$35 worth of surplus vegetables. She would have canned more but had filled up all the cans she could get. They have 50 hens, 11 guineas, 5 hogs, two cows and two "banks" of potatoes. There are plenty of corn and peas saved for winter.

As a result, says Mrs. Hattie F. Plummer, Vance county home agent, Reed's wife this past summer canned 303 quarts of fruit and vegetables, made 14 gallons of preserves and jelly and saved two bushels of dried apples and one bushel of dried peaches.

The family could not find much

agricultural teacher.

A district supervisor for the Reed Home Economics teacher.

A supervisor for other home economics teachers (paid from a different fund).

A district supervisor for the Negro county agent.

A district supervisor for the Negro home demonstration agent.

A district supervisor for the Negro vocational teacher of agriculture.

A district supervisor for the Negro Home Economics teacher.

The plans of work heading up under different supervisors are not always in accord. However, my observation has been that the group in Alamance does work together better than in most counties of the State.

The Grange feels that in the other branches of education less supervision is needed due to the strenuous times in trying to balance our budget.

What is the answer to such a multiplicity of agencies? It is that North Carolina needs one agricultural authority, putting an end to the present various agencies and departments in Raleigh and in the counties. Agriculture needs wise and unified leadership. It cannot get it unless all the agencies of agriculture and agricultural education are united.

Carthage, N. C. News

May 4, 1933

COLORED FARMERS ON THE JOB

Early cabbage and poultry have been used by colored farmers in Eastern Carolina as a source of income during the past several weeks, according to information secured by John W. Mitchell, negro district agent of the State College Extension Service. Mitchell says Willie Roberts of Edenton, Route 1, was the first farmer in his section to sell early cabbage and got 3 cents a pound for one load of 200 pounds.

A negro farm woman sold her first 54 broilers at 20 cents a pound and a few days later sold another group of 110 broilers for 19 cents a pound to secure an income for the family before returns were secured from other farm work.

A new development in income earning has been the turning of grease and meat scraps into home-made soap. One woman made up to 187 pounds of soap which she sold for 5 cents a block.

Mitchell observes that colored farm-

RALEIGH, N. C.  
NEWS OBSERVER

FEB 11 1933  
DUPLICATION AND WASTE IN  
AGRICULTURAL DIRECTION

A little while ago the Legislature decided to have one Department of Justice in North Carolina and no more. It was a move in the interest of efficiency and economy.

If there was one reason for one Department of Justice there are a hundred reasons, the same unity should be secured in agriculture. At present nobody knows where to go to find information and leadership in agriculture and agricultural education. Part of it is carried on in the Department of Agriculture, part at the College of Agriculture and Engineering, part of it in the Educational Department and part under the Supervisor of Farms. Agricultural development and agricultural education are identical and should be under one organization. At present there is duplication and extravagance, which will not be removed until there is one official agricultural authority in North Carolina.

Recently Kerr Scott, of Alamance County, master of the State Grange, a leader in agriculture and in modern development, discussing the need of elimination and waste, urged that the State should bring about closer coordination in educational fields. He cited the situation in Alamance County, listing the following supervisors and directors of agriculture and education as it is now practised, and said:

There are entirely too many supervisors and agencies in agriculture and agricultural education. For example, here is what goes on in Alamance County, and probably the same thing is seen in other counties. There are in Alamance County these supervisors:

A district supervisor for the county agent.

A district supervisor for the home demonstration agent.

A district supervisor for the vocational

ers in all parts of the state are planting more gardens than ever before. In one garden recently, he found salad, collards, lettuce, spinach, white or Irish potatoes, squash, beets, beans, and English peas.

In the Piedmont section, the negro farmers are preparing for more legume crops especially lespedexa and soy beans. The acreage to cowpeas is being decreased all over the state, he says. Many negro landowners also have a good acreage to small grain and this with poultry and hogs is expected to aid the colored farmers to continue their live-at-home efforts this year.

## GASTONIA, N. C. GAZETTE

APR 28 1933

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A new development in income earning has been the turning of grease and meat scraps into home-made soap. One woman made up 187 pounds of soap which she sold for 5 cents a block.

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## WILSON, N. C. TIMES

JUN 5 1933

### NEGROES LEARNING THE VALUE OF FARMING FOR A LIVING

Negro farmers of North Carolina are rapidly learning of the value of farming to make a living and records secured by the 18 local Negro agents located in those counties with a high percentage of colored citizens indicate that special efforts to become self-supporting are being made this season, says John W. Mitchell, Negro district agent for the Agricultural Extension Service of State College.

The activity with home gardens self-supporting are being made this is especially outstanding though the season, says John W. Mitchell, Negro attempts to start flocks of pure bred poultry rank along with the gardeners. The local agents tell of numerous colored families having flocks of 200 to 300 baby chicks which were started this spring. In Lenoir

county, there are 101 families having as many as eight different vegetable varieties growing in the garden at this time and from Martin county come reports that food and feed crops are taking first place. In the Tidewater section, and in the Albemarle country, the Negro den at this time and from Martin county come reports that food and feed crops are taking first place.

In the piedmont, one local agent reports placing 12 demonstrations in corn growing, 14 in lespedexa and other clovers, and 27 in year round gardens. Hog fattening projects, home-mixing of fertilizers, cooperative purchases of soybean seed and the growing of sorghum for syrup are four other popular activities among the Negroes this year. In Mecklenburg County, a group cooperated to buy their fertilizer for cash and saved \$4 a ton on the venture.

The district agent also reports that attempts to grow a better quality of cotton will be made in an effort to clear more cash from the crop this year. The district agent also reports that attempts to grow a better quality of cotton will be made in an effort to clear more cash from the crop this year.

## GREENVILLE, N. C. REFLECTOR

JUL 31 1933

### THEY SHOULD BE NO HELP FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT WORK

Complaints are coming to us almost every day about the fact that farmers who need Negro labor from town to help in housing the tobacco crop are having trou-

ble in getting enough labor because so many of the laborers who have been and are still being fed by the relief departments seem to be

satisfied and have made up as many as eight different vegetable varieties growing in the garden at this time and from Martin county come reports that food and feed crops are taking first place. In the Tidewater section, and in the Albemarle country, the Negro den at this time and from Martin county come reports that food and feed crops are taking first place.

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It seems to us that when a person who is receiving relief is offered a job, even though a temporary one, he or she would be glad to get it and when such persons decline, there should be no public relief for them. At this particular time there is need for a great number of workers in harvesting the crops and we would suggest that the city authorities have all laborers of our city will-

Then the laborer who is not willing to work should not be cut off from any and all relief but should be classified and dealt with accordingly.

ing to do such work report to the chief of police or some other designated official and that all farmers needing this labor report to the same source in order that the employer might in this way be able to contact the workers.

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In the Piedmont section, the negro farmers are preparing for more legume crops especially lespediza and soy beans. The acreage to cowpeas is being decreased all over the state, he says. Many negro landowners also have a good acreage to small grain and this with poultry and hogs is expected to aid the colored farmers to continue their live-at-home efforts this year.

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The activity with home gardens is especially outstanding though the season, says John W. Mitchell, Negro attempts to start flocks of pure bred poultry rank along with the gardens. The local agents tell of numerous colored families having flocks of from 200 to 300 baby chicks which were started this spring. In Lenoir

county, there are 101 families having flocks of as many as eight different vegetable varieties growing in the garden at this time and from Martin county come reports that food and feed crops are taking first place.

In the Tidewater section, and in the Albemarle country, the Negro farmers have given special attention to early truck crops and have been among the first to have new vegetables for sale on the local markets.

In the piedmont, one local agent reports placing 12 demonstrations in corn growing, 14 in lespediza and other clovers, and 27 in year round gardens. Hog fattening projects,

home-mixing of fertilizers, cooperative purchases of soybean seed and the growing of sorghum for syrup are four other popular activities among the Negroes this year. In Mecklenburg County, a group cooperated to buy their fertilizer for cash and saved \$4 a ton on the venture.

The district agent also reports that attempts to grow a better quality of cotton will be made in an effort to clear more cash from the crop this year.

The district agent also reports that attempts to grow a better quality of cotton will be made in an effort to clear more cash from the crop this year.

## GREENVILLE, N. C. REFLECTOR

JUL 31 1933

### THE . . . SHOULD BE NO HELP FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT WORK

Complaints are coming to us almost every day about the fact that farmers who need Negro labor from town to help in housing the tobacco crop are having trouble in getting enough labor because so many of the laborers who have been and are still being fed by the relief departments seem to be satisfied and have made up their minds not to work any more or at least until the fall when all the tobacco factories get to work. During the past fall and winter there has been much relief work done in this county

and no doubt much of the relief was well deserved and in many cases prevented real hunger and deprivation

but after all we are wondering on a whole if this relief work hasn't caused a lot of people to determine to depend from now on upon public sources for a living rather than try to help themselves.

It seems to us that when a person who is receiving relief is offered a job, even though a temporary one, he or she would be glad to get it and when such persons decline, there should be no public relief for them. At this particular time there is need for a great number of workers in harvesting the crops and we would suggest that the city authorities have all laborers of our city willing to do such work report same to the chief of police willing to work should not be cut off from any and all farmers should be officially and that all farmers needing this labor report with accordingly.

Then the laborer who is not willing to work should not be cut off from any and all relief but should be classed as a vagrant and dealt with the same needs to the same source in order that the employer might in this way be able to contact the workers.

Agriculture-1933

Condition of.

Columbia, S. C. State  
April 1933

## NEGRO FARMERS MAKING PROGRESS

Practice Live-at-Home Program.

### MEETINGS ARE HELD

Seventeen Community Gatherings in April Under Direction of Agent Dickson.

Negro farmers in Richland county working under the direction of J. E. Dickson, county farm agent, are making progress with their live-at-home program. Seventeen community farm meetings have been held this month at Bush River section, Ready Point, Dutch Fork, Chappell, Rolley, Lykesland, Hopkins, Killians, Blythewood, Montieth, Pine Grove, St. Luke, Blaney, Weston and Eastover with 800 adults and juniors present.

April 7 a leaders' training conference was held at Columbia, in the Masonic temple (Negro), 1125 1-2 cows, hens and hogs through which Washington street. Fifty-four men, women and older boys from all sections of Richland county were present and received training to be better leaders in their different communities when they return. Agent Dickson was assisted in this school of training by Francis E. Thomas, home agent; H. E. Daniels, assistant district agent, State college, Orangeburg; M. B. Paul, state home agent, State college, Orangeburg, and Dr. M. F. Whittaker, president State A. and M. college, Orangeburg, and the state boys' club agent, Dan Lewis of Clemson college.

Agent Dickson has been very active in giving assistance to the Richland county relief council in the planning and distribution of garden seed to over 1,000 needy and unemployed Negro farmers throughout the county. Dickson's slogan is "Eat what you make and be sure to make what you eat and sell only what you don't need." Agent Dickson's five-year yesterday signed the first cotton contract in Richland county, agreeing to attention of every farmer in South Carolina. It is as follows:

Corn: Plant a sufficient acreage to produce 60 bushels per head of work stock, eight bushels for each mature cow, 20 bushels for each hog, ten bushels for each 50 chickens and three bushels for each person on the farm.

Oats: Plant a sufficient acreage to produce 20 bushels per head of work stock and eight bushels for each milch cow on the farm.

Hay: Plant a sufficient acreage of a mixture of oats and vetch to produce one and one-half tons of hay for each head of live stock on the farm and plant a sufficient acreage

of cowpeas, cane and soybeans to produce two tons of summer hay for each animal on the farm.

Wheat: Plant a sufficient acreage to produce six bushels for each person on the farm and ten bushels for each 50 chickens on the farm (hens).

Syrup: Plant a sufficient acreage to produce ten gallons for each person on the farm.

Potatoes: Plant enough for home consumption and a few to sell.

Garden: Plant a sufficient acreage for fresh vegetables the year round.

Pasture: Plant one acre for each cow to bermuda grass and burr clover on upland and one acre to carpet grass and Dallas grass-lowlands.

Cotton: Plant only land that will produce a profit when cotton sells for six cents per pound.

Soil Improvement: Increase the yields per acre and lower the cost per pound by planting vetch, Austrian winter peas, crimson clover during the last week in September, the first week in October. And plant

all corn rows to either cowpeas, velvet beans or soybeans to be turned under after you pick your seed.

Live Stock: Produce pork enough for home consumption and a few shoats to sell. Produce milk enough for each person to have at least one quart a day. Raise a sufficient number of hens for home needs and a few to sell to replace sugar, coffee, etc. Keep a sufficient number of plus feed that the farm should produce.

Columbia, S. C. State

June 29, 1933

## NEGRO FARMER FIRST TO SIGN

Leads Off in Richland With His Part.

### MEETINGS ARE HELD

Committeemen Already Busy to Get Signatures for Acreage Plan.

William Webber, a Negro farmer, farming program should attract the tract in Richland county, agreeing to destroy seven and a half acres. He gave his contract to J. E. Dickson, Negro county agent, who opened his campaign with a meeting at noon at Eastover, attended by about 400 people, who voted without dissenting voice in favor of the plan. Last night Dickson had a meeting of 250 at Hopkins with the same result.

County Agent Hopkins held a meeting at Blythewood last night, where the cotton plan met with approval.

The time has now come for the actual signing of the contracts and the various representatives, white and Negro, will proceed to contact all as soon as possible, the signing starting

South Carolina

Columbia, S. C. State

June 26, 1933

## DICKSON URGES NEGROES TO SIGN

Makes Preliminary Trip for Cotton Campaign Waged This Week.

J. E. Dickson, county farm agent for Negroes in Richland, has about completed his organization and will be ready Wednesday morning to push

the cotton acreage reduction campaign among Negro farmers. He has worked out a schedule of community meetings in seven sections of the county. At these meetings the government contracts will be read and explained in such a way that the farmers will not be afraid to sign for

the present condition of the cotton market.

At present the cotton market is chugged full of surplus cotton, and the price of cotton will not advance until this surplus is removed. If

this year's cotton crop is harvested

without a reduction in acreage, as planned, the market will continue to be flooded, and farmers cannot expect to get a profitable price for the cotton they sell this year. The removal of this surplus cotton will mean great prosperity to farmers in general.

Farmers can help to remove this surplus, and at the same time get immediate benefits by reducing their present cotton acreage at once, according to their choice of one of these two plans: (1) Benefit

payment per acre plus cotton option; that is, the farmer will receive a cash payment from \$6 to \$12 per acre for the number of acres he plows up according to the yield per acre, and also have an opportunity to buy the amount of cotton he expected to produce on the acres plowed up from the government at 6c a pound. (2)

Benefit payment without cotton option; that is, the farmer will receive a cash payment per acre from \$7 to \$20 without an opportunity to buy cotton from the government.

For further information see your community committee or see me. I am also making out application blanks, and shall be glad to assist you in any way that will be helpful in putting over this campaign.

"The present cotton surplus must be wiped out." Do your part. J. C. Maloney, Negro Farm Demonstration Agent.

Five meetings this week have been arranged by W. C. Bunch, negro extension agent, in the interest of the cotton reduction program.

The agent will explain the terms to point at them and say, "where

ing, and the advantages farmers may gain by reducing their acreage under the terms offered by the government.

The meetings have been planned as follows:

Monday night, 8 o'clock, Union school, Fairmont community.

Tuesday night, 8 o'clock, Brown Chapel school, Chesnee community.

Wednesday night, 8 o'clock, Shoda Grove Church, Inman community.

Thursday night, 8 o'clock, Durham Grove school, Cashville community.

Friday night, 8 o'clock, Pleasant Fall school, Pleasant Fall community.

**GREENVILLE, S. C.**  
NEWS

**JUL 30 1933**  
**A Farmer's Lament**

Editor The News:

Do what—starve? Struggle to pay more taxes to keep up the big man. What did we have an election for?

To get better men, have a more prosperous time, but who is keeping the profit? The big man. Those forestry camps were to help the country and to give the needy jobs.

Negro farmers in the cotton acreage reduction campaign will be under the direct supervision of Agent Dickson and will report to him every night the progress made that day. The committee is composed of the following:

Ernest Barnwell, Eastover; Zack R. Clarkson, Hopkins, and Samuel J. Dunlap, English.

Agent Dickson said yesterday he was confident a large percentage of Negro farmers would sign for the reduction of cotton acreage and will be ready to plow up the same when Secretary Wallace gave his orders.

To make sure of a large attendance at his educational meetings this week Agent Dickson drove to English, Eastover and Blythewood Sunday and spoke at five churches in those sections to 800 people.

Spartanburg, S. C. Herald

July 3, 1933

## COTTON MEETINGS PLANNED BY BUNCH

Acreage Cut Terms Will Be Explained to Negro Farmers

Oh Lord, when our leaders go out to meet their Maker there will be many poor ragged, half-starved people.

Oppress us that are helpless in words, but it can't be done. Pay 25 cents to raise. Pay 20 you just sit still and be robbed; and you can then stand back and

make your bread grow.

PO-Wake up or

raise corn, meat and peas at home and save oversleep.

Save oversleep.

by A FARMER.

live at

the cotton go.

Raise

tatoes,

and meat

for the rich

man.

beg you

to eat

tough

it and let the rich

man

you can do the same.

compost

the cotton, use compost

the beetles,

then carry them to

tatoes,

and meat

stop working for

the rich

man.

give your beans

and other vegetables

hogs, live at

the cotton go.

spray to keep

the cotton go.

school, English; Thursady, 4 p. m.

Cook school, Blaney; Thursday, 6 p. m., Free Hope school, Blythewood;

Friday, 12 noon, Pine Grove school,

Dutch Fork, and Friday, 4 p. m., Rolly Chappell Baptist church, Lykesland.

The Negro committee to sign up

the cotton acreage

who got in? Not my boy, but the rich man's son that doesn't need



# Williamsburg Farmers Protest Labor's Demoralization by Relief

Columbia, S. C. S.  
September 19, 1933

Special to The State.

Kingstree, Sept. 18.—A mass meeting of Williamsburg county cotton farmers was held in the courthouse here Saturday to discuss cotton problems now being agitated over the state. L. S. Carter, county agent, outlined the object of the meeting, which resolved itself into a somewhat heated protest against the demoralization of Negro labor by relief agencies. Mr. Carter appealed to Williamsburg county at large not to "fly off the handle and do anything lawless." He praised the co-operation of the farmers in the tobacco reduction campaign.

G. W. Green, county relief administrator, said that figures in his office Saturday gave the county a percentage of 95.3 farmers as signing re-production agreements. J. J. M. Graham, Cades, was elected chairman of the meeting. Following the meeting Mr. Graham wired President Roosevelt and Secretary Wallace that a mass meeting of Williamsburg county farmers urged that immediate action be taken to raise the price of cotton to 15 cents.

G. A. McElveen, representing local ginners, said that the storage of cotton seed in warehouses gave cotton oil mills an opportunity to know how much seed is ginned and to force prices down. Ginners would urge, he said, that farmers take their seed back home so that oil mills would boost prices to prevent farmers from replanting seed.

Mr. Graham opened the round-table discussion of cotton problems that followed by saying that one of the greatest problems confronting farmers is the demoralization of labor by the dispensation of federal relief funds.

Mr. Graham gave as an example that his hands were all in the commissary Saturday evening in a good humor, having been paid off and planning to pick cotton Monday. Monday they sent word to know if he intended picking cotton, an unheard of procedure. He discovered that the hands had been advised in church Sunday to wait until Wednesday to pick cotton when the price had been fixed. They all refused to work until they were issued "tickets to work." Mr. Graham said that the meeting had been called by farmers for the sole purpose of asking that the relief administration withhold relief until the crops are harvested.

"When the farmers see the crops going to ruin and hands doing nothing, violence may result," said Mr. Graham. He said that while there were many poor Negroes in the county, none had ever been allowed to starve and never would. He said that if the investigators of the relief administration would ask landlords instead of laborers about conditions, the result would be better.

J. P. Gamble, planter of the Heineman section, said that his hands had received a ticket for one day's work at 30 cents an hour under R. F. C. and had been sitting down ever since. He said there was no such thing as unemployment now in Williamsburg county, with 100 bales of cotton in his fields unpicked. He was haul-

ing hands by the hundred from Berkeley to work in his fields, Mr. Gamble said.

A number of other farmers spoke in similar vein. The consensus of opinion was that farmers could not pay 30 cents an hour when the price of their crops was so low, and that when a farmer gave his hands 40 cents per 100 pounds to pick cotton besides a home, wood, water and other things, it was more than 50 cents to the man Negro labor by relief agencies. Mr. Carter, who had no labor living on his farm, appealed to Williamsburg Most farmers have promised to pay 50 cents per 100 if cotton goes over 10 cents a pound.

G. W. Green, county relief administrator, asked that he be permitted to outline his position. He said that the county administration could only follow governmental instructions, that no disruption of farm labor was desired or intended. He presented cards asking the farmers to sign that they need laborers to harvest their crops.

He also said that he would immediately take up the situation here with Malcolm Miller, state administrator of the R. F. C. workers, until December 1 was also carried.

## CHARLESTON, S. C. NEWS SEP 27 1933 Drawing No Color Line

Four men have been arrested on the charge of being of the night riders who destroyed growing cotton in the fields in Florence county. They have given bond.

One is not surprised that two of them are negroes. The four are entitled to the presumption of innocence until a jury shall find them guilty.

If there be justification for the destruction of the cotton of persons who did not choose to sign an agreement to plow up part of their crops, surely negroes who produce cotton have it not less than white men.

Thousands of negroes were of the signers agreeing to plow up cotton and to receive compensation from government for it. Their interest and their incentive are identical with those of white men.

Economic laws draw no color line. If anyone defends the white night rider, the defense applies to the black man on horseback doing violence to the property of his neighbors.

Thus is brought home to South Carolinians the condition that we shall have if we condone violence and disorder. We shall have white men and negro men engaging in it together, if it shall be tolerated, and if it shall not be put down promptly.

A nice condition we have—white men and negroes riding together and destroying the growing crops of some of the most respected farmers in the Pee Dee country. At any rate that is the charge. White men and negro men have been arrested.

Charleston, S. C., Daily Courier  
September 27, 1933

## Drawing No Color Line

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# Negro Sharecropper Saves Crop With Neighbors' Help

By RALPH GARRETTE.

SIMPSONVILLE, S. C.—A Negro sharecropper of Greenville County was told to leave his crop. This Negro has 18 acres in cotton and two acres in corn. A man came and told him he had to move this cropper, and another worker near him went to Greenville and got a lawyer. So the landlord was ordered to court and this Negro cropper and other tenant farmers put up such a fight that the landlord was forced to sign a guarantee to pay this sharecropper and his family \$2.40 a day from now until January 1 or give him half the crop. The landlord agreed to pay the money.

The terror used against the Negroes is something keeping them from standing up for their rights. The Negro croppers and tenant farmers have made good crops and the landlords are doing everything they can to terrorize them and get them to leave their crops.

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Agriculture -1933  
Condition of.

Tennessee

**MEMPHIS, TENN.**  
PRESS SCIMITAR

**MAY 5 1933**

### Maintenance Farming

Shelby County now is putting more land in cultivation than in several years.

The reason for this is that many families, both white and negro, are moving to the farm.

"Most of them are going to raise food for their families and very little cotton, except where landowners require it," reports L. J. Kerr, assistant county agricultural agent.

This is good judgment.

The family that raises its own food isn't dependent upon the price of cotton for existence.

The success of maintenance farming doesn't depend upon the price of commodities.

A living is a living, whether the price of what is raised and consumed is high or low.

Wall Street cannot change the calorie content of food.

Agriculture-1933  
Condition of.

Texas.

**LINCOLN, NEB.  
EVE. STATE JOURNAL**

**SEP 15 1933**

**TEXAS HAS A PROBLEM.**

A stirring protest against the methods employed by cotton planters in the application of the recovery act comes from Texas. The federal government, which approved the code, also comes in for condemnation. The Texas Weekly, which voices the protest, says that it will eliminate no less than 80,000 tenant farmers in Texas and at least 200,000 in the south. It says that it is a cotton land owners' code, and does not take the tenant into consideration in any respect.

The way it is asserted that it will operate is that the federal government steps in as a colossal cash tenant in competition with share and cropper tenants, and by out-bidding them puts a certain percentage of them out of business and off the land. The code gives prime consideration to the land, and not even secondary consideration to the tenants, the editor says, whereas as applied to industry first consideration is given the worker and only secondary consideration to capital.

The majority of the cotton growers of the south are tenants, but it is charged that they were not given a voice in the meeting at which the code was adopted and later submitted in the form agreed upon. We are also told that it is a mistake to minimize the effect of the new move on the ground that it does not affect the white man, the Negro not being given first consideration in the south. In Texas 78 percent of the tenants are white. Texas must take care of those dispossessed in some way. They share this year in that portion which is being plowed up, but the bonus money next year goes to the landowner whose acres lie idle.

The prediction is made that this elimination will be permanent. In Texas, as elsewhere, more atten-

tion is being given to cotton cultivation, and this means greater production. If it also develops that the acreage for next year produces enough cotton to supply all demands, the pressure to continue the program will be irresistible.

Agriculture - 1933  
Condition of

Virginia.

3

Farm Management Study

~~Journal and~~  
THE division of agriculture of  
the Virginia State College issued in  
March of this year the results of a  
farm management study made last  
summer by Orleans Reid, Instructor  
in agricultural economics at the  
Petersburg institution. The report,  
in mimeograph form, has been dis-  
tributed to more than three hun-  
dred farmers, county agents, voca-  
tional teachers, and to all of the  
Land Grant colleges.

Indicating certain pertinent facts  
regarding Negro farmers of Vir-  
ginia, the study cites out needed  
points of attack if the colored  
farmer is to hold his own and con-  
tinue to climb up the agricultural  
ladder.

The study should be secured by all  
farmers interested in improving  
their condition, and by all others  
concerned with advancement in this  
field.

Any farmer, we submit, who does  
the things recommended in the  
study will find himself much better  
situated at the end of 1933 than he  
was at the end of 1932.

Agriculture - 1930

West Virginia

Condition of

# ATTRACTI~~ON~~S OF FARM TO THE NEGRO ARE MANY

By LUCIUS SMITH

BLUEFIELD, W. Va., Aug. 10—The amount of publicity given to "The Negro Should Return to the Farm" is interesting, and it would be amusing were it not for the many whose future well-being it involves. From all sections there has been ~~much~~ in the press advising ~~the~~ return of Negroes to the farm. Only two or three, however, of these many advisers have had any extensive, practical experience on a farm.

If Negroes have abandoned the farms for city life in deplorable numbers since 1920 there must be some outstanding reasons or causes. Before anyone can make an intelligent approach to the subject, "the Negro should return to the farm," one should know why the Negro left the farm, and under what conditions he should return, if his social and economic status are assured of a new beginning that shall make for permanent improvement.

I, too, would be happy to see a healthy back-to-the-farm movement for a large number of our unfortunate city dwellers. But, should they be "coerced" to return under conditions similar to or worse than those existing before they gave up farming?

When one talks "back to the farm for Negroes," one speaks chiefly of the farms south of the Mason and Dixon line, but, apparently one forgets the condition of life and environment which were the farmer's lot even in the good old days of by-gone years when Negro farm life was primarily one of dread, despair and fear. If, as a farmer, he did poorly, he feared the heavy hand of the "night rider." If he was progressive, he stood in greater danger.

Not all landlords were wicked and cruel; certainly not. In many communities and counties one finds the cordial and helpful relations existing between white landlords and Negro landlords and tenants. Too often, however, the life and property of these splendid farmers were in danger, and their crops showed no profit because of com-

petition with "slave" labor.

As I see it, the success of getting the Negro to return to the farm under an improved condition is contingent upon two conditions: first, farming in many sections must become highly syndicalistic, supervised and regulated by the State or national government as other large businesses are; or, second, the State or Federal government must take the lead in facilitating the return of the Negro to the farm by acquisition of farm land, cutting it into desirable tracts, equipping such tracts for various types of model farms with such necessities as will make for comfort and happiness, sell them on easy long terms to farmers who wish to return to the country with the hope and purpose of redeeming themselves and family.

The old system has made farming an undesirable risk, not alone to the millions of Negroes and whites who have given up farming in the last 20 years, but also to the big landlords, and worse than all, to the insurance and investment companies, who have sunk irretrievable millions in worthless mortgages to be redeemed through high premiums and interest rates charged to the rest of us for their services.

One may assume that the American people are paying millions of dollars annually in unnecessary taxes to offset defaults in interest payments on mortgages and taxes of non-productive farm property as a consequence of land-poor land barons. It appears that intelligent leadership should see the need of a reorganization of American farm practices in harmony with the trend of progressive social forces. At a time when our various State and national governments are falling over themselves to give the "Big Fellows" a new deal, why not open a new deck and make a new deal for the back-to-the-farm man.

Yes, we should want that millions of Negroes and even whites return to the farm, but let us wish that they return under conditions which offer hope, peace, and a reasonable chance for normal prosperity.

Agriculture - 1933

6  
Labor Conditions.

Alabama

# Tuskegee Hospital Head Denies He Gave Wounded Man to Police

Sought by Posse, He Asked Treatment at Tuskegee.

## BODY COVERED

### WITH BRUISES

*Birmingham*  
Week of Alabama Terror Described.

Dr. Eugene Dibble, speaking from Tuskegee Hospital, of which he is superintendent, Sunday night by long distance telephone to the AFRO-AMERICAN, declared that the statement that he had surrendered Cliff James to police was entirely untrue.

James, he said, presented himself at Tuskegee Hospital and Infirmary on Wednesday December 21, the second night after the interracial disturbance. He suffered from gunshot wounds in the back of the right scapula. These were treated and dressed and he was given anti-tetanus treatment.

James himself made the request, Dr. Dibble said, that the sheriff at Macon County be notified. When the sheriff came he was taken to the county jail at Tuskegee. The next day he was transferred to the Montgomery City jail where it was thought he would be safer.

### Both Croppers Murdered

There is no question that both of the cropper leaders have been murdered. Cliff James's body is covered with bruises.

James was shot twice in the back by the sheriff posse. His

During his stay in the Tuskegee Institute Hospital, Dr. Dibble said Jones made no statement. James made no statement.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — (CNA) — The toll of dead resulting from the attack of a white sheriff's posse on the share-croppers at Reeltown (Notasulga), Alabama, on December 19, is mounting rapidly.

Three share-croppers are definitely known to be dead, and un-official, but persistent, reports put the number of dead at seven or more.

Several sheriffs admitted "seeing the bodies of four or five Negroes" farmers sympathetic to their cause. In the fields after the Battle of Reeltown. In addition, two of the arrested men are reported "missed."

Two share-croppers have died in the Montgomery County jail as the result of wounds inflicted by the sheriff's posse and subsequent re-pers in Montgomery County Prison

Clifford James, leader of the croppers, at whose cabin the murder attack started, and Milo Bentley. James was turned over to the sheriffs by officials of Tuskegee Institute, where he had gone for treatment of his wounds. Judson Simpson, at first reported dead, was later found wounded. John McMullen, another cropper, died in the first attack.

### Whites Help

At the same time, the militancy and determination of the croppers to resist eviction from the land and the attachment of work animals and farm implements is unbroken. It was this resistance of the croppers to eviction and attachment that led to the attack of the lynch posse on the home of Clifford James, local leader of the Share-Croppers' Union. There followed the arrest of many croppers and an attempt to terrorize the croppers and their sympathizers throughout Alabama. The sheriffs are searching the cabins of white croppers because it is known that they are hiding fugitive Negro croppers and are sympathetic with the aims of the union.

body shows no bullet wounds in front.

Bentley's body has at least seven bullet wounds in the head, the back, and the arms. The wounds on both bodies are highly infected.

It is obvious that wounds had not been dressed for several days. Some of the wounds were not dressed at all and are completely uncovered and exposed.

The International Labor Defense is proceeding with the cases of the arrested croppers in spite of almost incredible difficulties placed in its path by Alabama officials.

### Week of Terror

These are, in brief, the outstanding events in a week of bloody terror by the white landlords and officials, and spirited resistance by even more.

Several sheriffs admitted "seeing the bodies of four or five Negroes" farmers sympathetic to their cause. In the fields after the Battle of Reeltown. In addition, two of the arrested men are reported "missed."

Two share-croppers have died in the Montgomery County jail as the result of wounds inflicted by the deaths of the two wounded crop-sheriff's posse and subsequent re-pers in Montgomery County Prison

Clifford James, badly wounded and managed to elude the sheriff's posse and made his way to the hospital at Tuskegee Institute. Here he

asked for medical treatment. The Tuskegee officials turned him over to the sheriffs—an act for which the white Southern press has praised them highly. The heads of the institute have since declared that James asked them to accompany him to the sheriff.

One of the doctors, in charge of the Tuskegee Hospital, was reported as saying that James had told him that he "wished he had killed the deputies." This statement is being used as the basis for new lynch threats against the croppers. James denied that he had made any such statement.

### Kept in Darkness

In Montgomery jail, both James and Milo Bentley, who was also badly wounded, were denied medical aid by the county physicians, Dr. Fred Reynolds, and Dr. William Gunter, Jr. A private physician, sent to the jail by a local group, was denied admittance. When visited by local residents, both men were found to be confined in an upper cell block with windows closed tight. James was delirious. He died on December 27 Bentley a day later.

### Six Still in Jail

The names of those arrested, as far as is known, are:

Macon County jail: Andrew Cobb, Emmett Wood, Charles Moss. Montgomery County jail: Thomas

Moss, Jiggy Moss, Ivy Moss. Dadeville County jail: Ned Cobb, Emmett Wood, Cornelius Wood, Walter Pogue, Lloyd Simpson, Wilbur Cobb, Edgar Cobb, Clinton Moss, Alfred White.

Wetumpka County jail: Andrew Cobb.

Opelika County jail: Sam Moss.

Forse Release of 4 Croppers

As a result of the tremendous protests by indignant workers, poor farmers and intellectuals, the authorities have been forced to release four of the arrested croppers held in Dadeville jail, Tallapoosa County. The four are L. Simpson, Wood, Greathouse and Bentley, who bears the same name as the murdered cropper leader, Milo Bentley.

### Sheriffs Mum

The Alabama sheriffs and officials are making every effort to prevent an effective defense for the framed croppers. Mrs. M. Cooper, representative of the International Labor Defense, has in all cases been refused permission to speak with the croppers who are held prisoners. Sheriff Young of Dadeville said:

"No representative of the I.L.D. can see any prisoner of mine."

Frank Irwin, attorney, of Birmingham, who has been engaged by the I.L.D., has not been permitted to talk to the croppers privately, and resorted to writs of habeas corpus

returnable January 5 to talk to the croppers alone. At Tuskegee, Sheriff Riley refused to give out any information as to the number or condition of the prisoners in his charge, and here also Mr. Irwin is resorting to habeas corpus action to gain an interview.

### Governor Refuses

The denial of all constitutional rights to the croppers led a committee of three white citizens to visit Governor B. M. Miller at Montgomery last week. The committee was composed of Mrs. Nash Reid, Mrs. Mary Craik Speed—both of prominent families—and Rabbi Benjamin Goldstein. Governor Miller refused to intervene to gain constitutional rights for the arrested croppers.

Telegrams and resolutions of protest have been pouring in from toilers and intellectuals all over the country. Militant unions, farmers' organizations, women's groups etc., have been flooding the state capital with protests. Prominent among the messages of protest and solidarity are messages from white Southern farmers. Charles Tipton, a white farmer of Andalusia, Alabama, wrote: "We rejoice to learn how game the Tallapoosa farmers are. Our farmers are behind them."



EUGENE DIBBLE

DR. EUGENE DIBBLE

# Dying Alabama Cropper Tells Why Posse Killed Him

Clifford James, unable to Pay \$80 Interest on \$950 Farm Mortgage, Protested when the Owner Sought to Carry off His Mules and Cows.

An interview with Clifford James, quoted at length in the Montgomery Advertiser, a few days before his death, reveals the conditions of the croppers, and the basis for the struggle against evictions and attachments. The interview, in part, follows:

"James said the trouble was about some money he owed W. S. Parker, Notaulga merchant, on a 77-acre farm he had bought in 1924 for \$1,600. He said he owed \$950 on the farm and had not been able to pay anything this year."

"Mr Parker not long ago came to me and said: 'Cliff, if you can't pay for your place, I'll have to sell it,' the Negro said.

"I said, 'Mr. Parker, that will be tough on us.' I asked him to just give a little time to raise something and buck up so I could have a showing.

"He told me that he'd give me this year's interest on the place if I'd make a note for \$80; that if I would agree to pay him the \$80 I could go on and owe another year. I told him I didn't have \$80 and he told me to make him a note for it. I told him I would study on it.

"Monday, Mr. Elder came. He said he had an attachment on my two mules and two cows.

"I told Mr. Elder that it looked like Mr. Parker ain't doing what he said, and that Mr. Parker had said he would allow me a showing.

"Mr. Elder said he didn't have nothing to do with that, that he had to carry out the law. Mr. Elder said: 'Cliff, I'm trying to help you!'

"I said: 'Mr. Elder, you're the law, but I won't agree for you to get them but to go ahead and get them.'

"And about that time, Ned Cobb, he came up. He said: 'Mr. Elder, please don't take 'em.'

"Mr. Elder, he said: 'Boys, I'll tell you what I'm going to do. I'm going back and get some more men and come back and kill you all in a pile.'

James then described how Elder returned with an armed posse which immediately opened fire on the croppers and rushed the cabin.

## THE KU KLUX KLAN NOT NEEDED

It is a well known fact that The Dadeville Record has never been a Klan sympathizer. However, if the Ku Klux Klan can legally and peacefully quiet disturbances among our Negroes in Tallapoosa County which have been brought about by outside influences, it will have done a good work. The great danger in such organizations is that individual members will take the law in their own hands and even violate the law in demanding what they want. In this instance, it is inconceivable that some lasting good might be done and still the organization remain within both the spirit and the letter of the law.—Dadeville Record.

We are sorry to see the esteemed Record lend even its tentative approval to the suggested revival of the Klan.

When men who are out to intimidate or inflict punishment upon their fellows may find safety in the concealment of their identities, they tend to become cruel and reckless.

They do not give fair trials. They sus-

pect a hapless individual and then attack him.

Sometimes they select the "right" man, sometimes they fall upon a man merely because they do not like him.

A great many men are spiteful and malicious. Conceal their faces and let them feel the approval of others of their kind, give them support, and they instantly become vicious and dangerous.

Difficulties of the sort that have lately harassed the citizens of Tallapoosa county can be met and overcome in better ways than by resort to intimidation and terrorization.

Wise and judicious men of both colors by conferring together and working together can do more good for the peace of a community than groups of excitable and irresponsible men slipping around at night with their faces covered and their flowing gowns concealing a lash.

It would be a public misfortune, in The Advertiser's opinion, if disturbances of the sort recently noted in Tallapoosa county should be successfully used by designing men to revive the discredited Ku Klux Klan in this State.

Alabama's experience with Ku Kluxism in the last decade was unhappy at almost every turn of events.

It led to many abuses.

Directly and indirectly the Klan was responsible here and there over the State for hundreds of floggings of men, women and children.

It encouraged fear and hatred.

It led to gross political abuses and absurdities.

The history of Ku Kluxism in Alabama in the last decade is mainly a history of evil.

Let us have no more of such folly!

## Three Tallapoosa Negroes Released

John Irwin and Charley Moss, negroes held in the county jail here in connection with the recent attack on Tallapoosa County officers, yesterday were released upon order of Probate Judge Percy Oliver of Tallapoosa County.

The action followed a hearing set for today on a writ of habeas corpus before Judge Leon McCord, of the Montgomery Circuit Court.

The negroes were arrested following a pitched battle by a group of negroes at the home of Cliff James near Reeltown. James was wounded and died in the jail here. Milo Bentley, another negro, was wounded when he fired on Macon County officers who were attempting to arrest another negro, and Bentley died in the Kilby Prison hospital.

Another negro, Jim McMullen, was killed at the James home during the battle. Two of the officers were seriously wounded.

## REFUSAL OF AID KILLED CROPPERS SAYS PHYSICIAN

Hold Mass Funeral for  
Heroes of Negro  
Struggle

PROTEST MOVE GROWS

Demand Release of  
Croppers Still Jailed

### BULLETIN

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 5.—That Cliff James and Milo Bentley died as a direct result of the refusal of Tuskegee Institute hospital and Macon and Montgomery County authorities to give them medical attention, has been confirmed by a report of a private physician employed by the International Labor Defense to examine their bodies.

The physicians report states that both of these leaders of the Share Croppers' Union, who were wounded by landlord-police lynch gangs Dec. 19, in Tallapoosa County, died of traumatic pneumonia brought about by refusal to give them medical attention, and by their treatment and exposure while in jail.

### Mass Funeral Today.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 5.—At 1 o'clock Friday, Birmingham white price it costs. No advance has ever been made to the two murdered Negro cropper leaders, Cliff James and Milobama. If in this day and age, 70 years after the emancipation, we will not fight for our rights, we do not deserve any.

It is too bad that our insistence on what is our lawful as well as our human right is called "race war." Truth, however! Similar aims on the part of white men would not lead to fighting. It is because the cooperating farmers are of our race that there active, militant support to the struggles of the Negro croppers and exploited farmers against starvation, landlord robbery of their crops, the story of the struggle is presented. But why should we complain that we are misrepresented, when that has been the fate of every group that struggled up from the depths? More power to the Negro farmers in Alabama! As long as there is one alive who strives, right has a champion!

Wives of Murdered Leaders Speak.  
Mrs. Nancy James and Mrs. Gussie Bentley, wives of the two murdered cropper leaders, are in Birmingham attending meetings and speaking in churches to arouse the pressure and protest of the masses against these

murders and for unconditional and immediate release of other leaders of the Sharecroppers Union still held in jail. These leaders are facing the same fate of Cliff James and Milo Bentley unless sufficient mass pressure is mobilized to force their release. Mass pressure has already forced the release of seven of the defendants. Working-class organizations and all others opposed to lynching and massacre of the oppressed Negro people are urged to at once send protests to Judge McCord, at Montgomery, Ala., and to Gov. B. M. Miller, in the same city, demanding the immediate release of all sharecroppers held in jail for the "crime" of defending themselves in the Reeltown Battle, Dec. 19, against the attacks of the armed posses of the landlords.

### DOWN WITH THE NEW SLAVERY!

1 - 6 - 33

The South is not going to stop its exploitation of Negroes without a fight. Down in Alabama a bloody war has been raging between the authorities and Negroes charged with being members of the sharecroppers union.

Organized selling of farm produce is the order of the day. It has the approval of the federal government. But Alabama says it is not for Negroes, and local officials use their authority to punish as a crime what in other farmers is commended.

Negroes are dying in Alabama in this strife. Let them die,—the right to market their goods as other men do is worth any price it costs. No advance has ever been made to the two murdered Negro cropper leaders, Cliff James and Milobama. If in this day and age, 70 years after the emancipation, we will not fight for our rights, we do not deserve any.

It is too bad that our insistence on what is our lawful as well as our human right is called "race war." Truth, however! Similar aims on the part of white men would not lead to fighting. It is because the cooperating farmers are of our race that there active, militant support to the struggles of the Negro croppers and exploited farmers against starvation, landlord robbery of their crops, the story of the struggle is presented. But why should we complain that we are misrepresented, when that has been the fate of every group that struggled up from the depths? More power to the Negro farmers in Alabama! As long as there is one alive who strives, right has a champion!

Agriculture-1933  
Labor Conditions.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.  
ADVERTISER

FEB 21 1933

NEGRO FARM LABOR ABUNDANT AND  
WILLING

Editor The Advertiser:

I have just finished reading an article in The Advertiser in which you quote a Mr. James B. McClendon, who says he is a Lowndes County farmer. Mr. McClendon very severely criticizes the Red Cross giving aid to destitute negroes. He says that he has tried to hire labor for his farm and that the negroes laugh at him and refuse to work, saying that they don't have to work because the Red Cross is feeding them.

I am not acquainted with the situation in other counties, but feel that I do know something of conditions in Lowndes.

I notice that Mr. McClendon says that he went to the Montgomery Chapter of the Red Cross and tried to hire negroes to bring to Lowndes County to work on his plantation, and offered to pay them 35 cents a day.

I would like to know why Mr. McClendon wishes to hire negroes who live in Montgomery and bring them to this county when there are literally hundreds here out of employment, who would be glad to accept his proposition. In fact, I have had not less than 50 negroes offer to move on my place agreeing to work for only food and shelter.

Lowndes County recently put on relief work through money obtained from the R. F. C. and set the price for labor at 50 cents a day. We are now working over 600 men and have applications for more than 500 more, who will no doubt be put to work as soon as the social workers make the necessary investigations. These men are entirely dependent on what they make out of this job to feed their families through the Winter months.

I am a member of the Work Relief Committee to secure labor for the contractor now constructing and paving a road project in this county, and as a member of the County Board of Revenue, have charge of the county relief work using R. F. C. funds. I am also county chairman of the Red Cross and as such have had charge of the disbursing of everything that has been given to our county. My experience is that men, both white and colored, prefer, and had much rather work for their food and necessities than to beg it through any organization, when it is possible for them to obtain work.

In no instance has labor refused work when it was offered by me. Several times I have had an application for Red Cross aid and have told the applicant that I could give him a job, but that he could not receive aid from the Red Cross and work on these government jobs also, and in every case the man has taken the job.

I feel that I am in very close touch with both the Red Cross and the Relief Work, and speak with some degree of experience and knowledge, and that is the reason I am an-

swering the statement of Mr. McClendon.  
Fort Deposit, Ala. J. M. BLACK.

NEW YORK CITY SUN  
FEBRUARY 23, 1933

Daily Worker  
**NEED REFORMISTS TO THE DEFENSE  
OF THE LANDLORDS' TERROR**

BY WILLIAM FITZGERALD.

In their murderous attacks on the Negro croppers and exploited farmers of Tallapoosa County, Ala., the white landlords and their police have a valuable ally in the Negro reformist leaders. It was the Negro reformist heads of Tuskegee Institute who betrayed the murdered Share Croppers Union leader, Cliff James, into the hands of the landlord lynch gangs.

The Negro reformist editors of the New York Age and other papers do not condemn the landlord-police terror against the Negroes. They instead condemn the croppers and exploited farmers for resisting the armed attacks of the posses carrying out the landlords' orders to expropriate the cows and mules of the croppers. The reformists defend the landlord terror. They hold the landlords and their police guiltless. They declare that Communist propaganda is responsible for the murder of Negroes shot down in cold blood by the state machinery, controlled by the landlords.

THIS is the same role played by the Negro reformist leaders in the Scottsboro case. Here again they do not attack the bosses' courts trying to railroad nine innocent Negro boys to the electric chair. The reformist leaders attack instead the revolutionary white and Negro workers rallying to the defense of these victims of class justice and national oppression. They pretend that the Scottsboro Case is an isolated case, a mere miscarriage of justice. They attempt to disrupt the mass defense of the Scottsboro victims by asking the Negro masses to have faith in the bosses' courts. But what about the 5,000 Negroes lynched since the Civil War? Are these isolated cases? What about the legal lynching of Barney Lee Ross in Texas, of many other Negroes, the present attempts by Maryland courts to legally lynch

Yuel Lee (Orphan Jones?) Are these isolated cases? Are these merely miscarriages of justice?

NOW, again when the white and Negro masses are rallying to the defense of the croppers arrested in Alabama and held in jail for defending themselves—again the Negro reformists come forward to confuse the Negro masses, to cover up the misery, starvation and national oppression behind the tremendous struggles in Alabama. To interpret these struggles as merely the result of Communist propaganda, to slander the heroic croppers and exploited farmers as "ignorant" people "misled by Communist propaganda" and to defend the murderous landlords and their police.

These same Negro reformist leaders help the bosses in burying the revolutionary traditions of the Negro people, in soft-pedalling the history of the great slave insurrections led by Nat Turner, Denmark Vesey and other revolutionary leaders.

THE slave revolts were handicapped by the weakness of the working class movements of that period, and the absence of a clear class consciousness and revolutionary purpose among the white workers. Today, however, the situation is different. Under the leadership of the Communist Party large sections of the white toiling masses already have rallied to the support of the Negro liberation struggle. This is what alarms the white bosses and their reformist allies. But the Negro liberation struggle will continue to forge forward despite their attacks, despite the murderous terror of the ruling class. The Negro share croppers of Alabama, the Negro toiling masses throughout the whole country

Alabama

**Manhunt on for Negro  
Tallapoosa Croppers**

**Grand Jury Hands Down Seventeen Murder  
Indictments Against Attack Victims;  
Trial Next Week**

DADEVILLE, Ala., March 31.—A manhunt is on in Tallapoosa county for twelve Negro share-croppers against whom indictments charging assault to murder were handed down by an all-white Grand Jury here yesterday. Five others named in the indictment have lain in Dadeville jail since the attack upon the croppers December 19, when deputy sheriffs aided by Tuskegee Institute, mur.

The five croppers now in jail are Judson Simpson, Ned Cobb, Alfred dicaments, each carrying a maximum The twelve for whom posses are now penalty of twenty years. Trials are scouring the country, are Cornelius expected to start next week, in ar Wood, Tom Moss, Jug Moss, Scot effort to railroad the croppers. Gray, Roy Gray, Fully Warren, Will

Demand Dismissals. Warren, Thomas Moss, Willie Anderson, John Warren, Sam Cobb and Murge Wood.

The International Labor Defense, which is defending the share-crop-pers, has called on all workers of the country to immediately flood with protests Governor B. M. Miller, of Alabama, at Montgomery, Sheriff J. Kyle Young of Dadeville, and Judge Oliver, also at Dadeville, demanding the immediate release of all croppers held, and dismissal of all indictments

The direct connection of these indictments, handed down at this time in the midst of the new Scottsboro trial at Decatur, with this prosecution, was pointed out by the I.L.D. as of especial significance. The first Tallapoosa County massacre, at Camp Hill, in 1931, followed a militant protest by the share-croppers against the Scottsboro frame-up.

**Whites Defended Croppers.**

White and Negro farmers and tenants, all oppressed by the same white landlords, are expected to flock into the town to attend the trial. The white Tallapoosa croppers refused to take part in the Reeltown massacre, but on the contrary protected the Negro croppers.

## 19 In Tallapoosa Clash Are Indicted

DADEVILLE, Ala., March 30 (P)—The Tallapoosa County grand jury today indicted 19 negroes for assault with intent to murder in connection with the racial disorders last December at Reeltown, Ala., which resulted in the death of three negroes and the wounding of four deputies sheriff.

Four indictments were returned by the Grand Jury and the 19 negroes were named in each indictment. Their trial was tentatively set for April 7 but if any, the prosecution of these cases in H. Powell, Jr., circuit solicitor, said involved the persecution of the defendants there might be a delay due to a crowded criminal dock.

The disorders arose when the deputies attempted to serve attachment papers have been made to the United States on the livestock of Cliff Jeans, negro tenant farmer living near Reeltown.

Jeans refused to surrender the livestock and the officers returned to Tallahassee, eight miles away, for assistance. When they returned to the Jeans home, more than 75 negroes had assembled, and a pitched gun battle ensued.

One negro was killed at the home about 10 defendants and several other carried for safekeeping. Posse under charges of violation of the seed loan Sheriff Kyle Young scoured the countryside for two days and arrested the 19 negroes in the roundup.

The Grand Jury today also indicted Ira Marable, Dadeville farmer, for first degree murder in connection with the slaying of his wife about two months ago. Neighbors discovered her hacked body at the Marable farm about eight miles from town and Marable told officers he was in Dadeville on business at the time of the killing.

## U. S. To Delve Into Prosecution Of Seed Loans

Special Assistant Attorney General Now In Dothan To Begin Investigation

## To Sift Evidence Will Seek To Determine If Method Followed Was Tinged By Persecution

Samuel Whitaker, special assistant United States Attorney General assigned to investigate the seed loan cases in Alabama, left Montgomery yesterday for

Dothan where he will press his inquiries in behalf of the United States Department of Justice.

Mr. Whitaker yesterday conferred with C. O. Barger, special assistant attorney general, who has had charge of the seed loan investigation from the beginning, Arthur B. Chilton, United States District Attorney and J. O. Middleton, special attorney for the United States Department of Agriculture.

While assigned specifically to investigate the seed loan cases it was learned that the investigation will also include an inquiry into the evidence on which these cases, originally about 65 in number, were assembled and prosecuted with

### Complaints Registered

It is known that complaints of undue persecution of some of the defendants on the livestock of Cliff Jeans, negro Department of Justice.

Jeans refused to surrender the livestock is known to have been sweeping in scope. The loans were made available to farmers for the purchase of seed, feed and fertilizer in 1929, and the original inquiry developed a charge of conspiracy

to defraud the Government against year, but only lets us have five dollars a month for about three or four months. There are two families of eleven people in all. He didn't let us have one penny from last August until this year in January, when he came down here and brought eleven dollars for two families. This amount would not get shoes for one family.

The Government alleged in its conspiracy case that certain members of a local board created to pass upon the obtained and used the money fraudulently. It alleged that much of the money was paid to men who were not farmers; and that some of the farmers did not use the money for the purpose for which it was received.

### Some Trials Delayed

Among the defendants named in indictments returned is a brother of Congressman Henry B. Steagall. He has not been brought to trial. The case was set for the last term of court in Dothan but shortly before the trial a message from Congressman Steagall asked postponement as the Congressman said he desired to represent his brother.

County Agent Witherington and several co-defendants pleaded guilty following two mistrials and were given penitentiary sentences. About 40 cases recently were nolle prossed by the court, nearly all of them involving cases in which one or more of the defendants who had pleaded guilty were involved.

# "The Tide Is Turning," Writes a Sharecropper

## Struggle Developing Against Confiscation of Entire Crops by Landowners

By a Negro Sharecropper

DADEVILLE, Ala.—I thought I would write you a few lines to let you know how we are getting along down here. We are just here by the mercies of the Lord, among our enemies, with not a living chance. We are naked and barefooted and haven't anything to get clothes and shoes with, and haven't had for three weeks.

We are sharecroppers, and because is turning and I thank God and all we are in debt, the landlord holds the friends of the Negro race that all our cotton every year, and we are working for the defense and don't get one penny to get back our rights of the Negroes. I pray that clothes we work in, we have to make, we may succeed in our struggle for Bread, Land and Freedom.

Your comrade.

### T.U.U.L. MASS MEMBERSHIP MEET TONIGHT

Mass membership meeting of all affiliated T.U.U.L. unions to discuss application of United Front policy in trade union struggles and to prepare for May Day, tonight. Jack Stachel and A. Overgaard will report. Irving Plaza, 15th St. and Irving Place, 7:30 p.m.

## FIVE NEGRO FARMERS FACE TRIAL APRIL 25

Dadeville, Ala., April 13.—The second attempt within the last month to break down Alabama's jury system was launched here Wednesday with the scene being shifted from Decatur and the Scottsboro trials to Dadeville

where Judge W. B. Bowling denied a motion to quash indictments against five Negro men charged with intent to murder in connection with outbreaks here last December.

Judge Bowling denied the motion and set trial of the men for April 25, at which time another motion will be offered to quash the venire from which

time another motion will be offered to quash the venire from which the trial jury will be drawn.

The Negro's living chance here in the South (where we was bred and born), is like unto a rabbit in the forest among a crowd of hunters with deadly weapons, everyone shouting catch him, kill him, and every time one gets a chance, he will shoot and kill or wound him. So you see that is the fix we are in here, everybody shouting kill him, beat him, lynch of the defendants, Judson Simpson, him, and not one voice raised to defend him.

For Bread, Land and Freedom

Motions to quash indictments were filed by attorneys representing the

men, led by Irvin Schwab of New York. Here, as in the Scottsboro cases, it was alleged by the defense that Negroes had been systematically excluded from the jury roll.

The Dadeville trouble occurred last December, when sheriff's deputies attempted to seize livestock belonging to Cliff James, Negro farmer, who represented the seizure. Shots were exchanged resulting in the killing of James and three other Negroes, and the wounding of four officers.

Agriculture - 1933

Alabama

Labor Conditions.

# A Negro Share-Cropper Speaks His Mind

"I USTA think I could stay in hell for a moment, and his eyes half close. He looks away from me at one yeah—effen I thought I could get out the next," Jim Terry says. He talks slow, looking at the dark corner. He holds a cigarette awkwardly, puffs at it gingerly, finally puts it out and returns to his stove, his lips shut over his tobacco.

"It shore is hell, and I guess they not gonna let us out till we makes BOUGHT LAY YEARS AGO

His language is sharp, the edges of the words are rolled easy like, butland years ago, paying off with his meaning is hard and clear. I crop after crop of cotton, his sons have come to speak to him about working and his wife and daughter the Sharecroppers' Union. "It's aters. By now there are three fami-spreadin' like wildfire," he tells me, "virz from his small holding: "Every black man in our county is his own wife, two sons of eighteen for it, even if some's scared to sayand thirteen and a daughter of so. They's just waitin' their time."

Carloads of armed deputies are, two babies, and his other daughter at the moment we sit here in thister's husband with two small b-small room, patrolling the roadsides. about his cabin and that of his son. Now they're trying to take his and his son-in-law. The threat are land away, "But my family ain't side-by-side of this or their twogonna be put out onto the road," hundre acre plot in the heart of the tells me. He's emphatic. No the Alabama Black Belt. Jim has forced collection of rents or debts come to Birmingham to get aid is one of the main slogans of the and advice, and to get word to Union. "I told the ol' lady I'd go workers outside the guarded coun-down fore I'd do it," he says. He ty. Neither mail nor telegrams can refused to sign away his deed, so get out. These methods are con-the deputies, several carloads of trolled by the big landowners and them, swooped down upon his place the sheriff. Jim travelled through and took his m'e and his plows. the woods at night and caught a I ---sn't home at the time. freight train on the fly.

"I wasn't theah. If I'd a been theah I coulda held 'em off," he I HAVE come to see him, also at says, and he looks at his boots, night. The Negro comrade who thinking of holding invaders off his led me brought me through wind- land. "I got one Winchester, but I ing alleyways, and we must sepa- ain't got but a dozen cartridges," rate roing through lighted streets. he says. One son has a breech load- There is a fear in Birmingham of er, also, and another a revolver. whites and blacks getting together, WON'T LET THEM

TAKE FARM AWAY

kept read at moment to be lashed into a lync mob. From the outside of the little shack fusion." Jim told them before he which we approach, a weather beaten, unpain'd shack looking 'em take my farm away from me. like all the others which line the narrow, unpaved alley, hardly gotta have my land to work. discernable that there is any habitation. Cracks, where the light of the single kerosene lamp might sh'e through, are carefully blocked.

"Tell me, comrade, you own your o' land?"

"It seems like I don't," Jim says, his broad nostrils showing only a tendency to quiver, his strong forehead curving back over his shaven head, and his eyes, small in proportion to his larger, massive fea-

ture, clear and hard. He is silent smile as he says this and I reel good and happy to be here withmakes it different!" he answers comrades like these. "I'll stand up quickly. In the Sharecroppers' agin' 'em," he says, "but I ain't Union they demand the right to gonna walk into men with guns vote for the unenfranchised mil-

when I ain't got no protection my-lions of poor Negroes and for those

thousands of poor whites who are

"And I knows that no gun'd dounable to pay the poll tax. "The me no good less we was all stickin' Negro people aroun' our county is together and had protection from all 'r it. They's heard some of the Union. We don't want no con-Russia and they think's that's all fusion," Jim explains, "but we don't wanna be robbed right an' left, neither."

"What about your church," I want to know. "Doesn't the preacher there help you out any, try to get inti a for you?"

## PREACHER WORKS FOR THE BOSS

"O, we got a church all right," Terry tells me. "But what good's a church when ya got a devil in there leading it."

"All he got to say is, Mistah Pete, do what Mistah Pete say, don't you go causin' no commotion 'gainst Mistah Pete, they's some men made to rule and some to work."

"What good's a preacher like that, always workin' for the boss tryin' to poison our minds? Now if I had my way I'd put that devil out o' there and get me a Communist preacher."

We all laugh. Jim Terry spits into the open door of the stove. "Well," I comment, "Roosevelt'll be in soon."

"D'you think that'll make things any different?" asks the Negro worker whose shack we're in his face in the darkness, his blue, faded overalls sticking out into the light as his feet stretch towards the fire.

"No suh. It'll never be no different—not by him nor none like him," Terry says, shaking his head. We're silent for a moment, thinking of the Mussel Shoals propaganda which is spread across the front pages of the southern newspapers.

"O, maybe it'll be some different," Terry corrects himself. "It'll be maybe harder on the workin' man with more taxes and higher prices prob'lly. I don think Roosevelt's no frien' to me. I'm a pore man."

## "THEY'S HEARD SOME OF RUSSIA."

"When are things going to be different?"

"When we all gets together and

They wants to see what yore gonna do."

How he had his two hands held out, large, big-knuckled hands worn and yellow on the palms. "And sometime we're gonna get together," he brings his palms together and his fingers grip into a double, iron fist. "If it was left to me it'd come tomorrow," he says. The others nod ready affirmation from the dimness.

"What do you want me to tell other workers for you sharecroppers and poor farmers in the Alabama Black Belt," I ask him.

He stands up to stretch and his huge, strong bulk blots the light from half the room. His high broad forehead is wrinkled a bit as he thinks. Then he looks straight at me. "Tell them we're ready," he says, "an' if I gotta die I'd rather die for something than just starve an' work myself to death like a mule, for nothin' exceptin' to make Mistah Pete richer. Tell them we're ready and fighting now so's we can all live and work in peace."

Note: Jim Terry is not the correct name of the Black Belt farmer here described. His name and other more detailed facts about the location of his farm, etc., are omitted for obvious reasons.

## REDS SORRY FOR COLORED U.S. FARMERS

By CHATWOOD HALL

MOSCOW, U.S.S.R.—Interest in the plight of the colored American farmers was expressed by many of the 1,500 collective farm workers of the Soviet Union in their recent all-union convention at the Bolshoi Theatre.

The delegates considered problems to be overcome during the second five-year-plan the period which is to fully liquidate the few remaining capitalistic remnants and to usher in the classless society.

The delegates, who under the Czarist regime were more oppressed than the toiling colored farmers of the U.S. South, came to the Red capital from all parts of this vast country which covers one-sixth of the earth's surface. There were those from far away Uzbekistan, in Central Asia, where a group of col-

Share Cropper in South Toiling

in the blazing sun for a mere pit-tance handed out by the landlords.

right they's all ready to go out an' get it right hyar."

WHAT about the whites around there," I want to know, "the poor whites?"

"They gotta do something too," Jim explains. "I'd like to see them come along with us, but I ain't gonna go out and ask them. That's too dangerous." He holds up one big hand, cupping it. "Now that's the Negroes. They's waitin' an' ready—every last one o' them.

ored cotton experts from the United States are teaching advanced cotton culture.

#### Know About Alabama

Many of the delegates displayed keen interest in the plight of the colored farmers in America. They knew about the terror of Camp Hill, Ala., and the general exploitation of the colored masses. Deepest sympathy for their colored brethren was expressed.

There are in the Soviet Union 5,000 immense state farms, Government owned and operated, and more than 200,000 collective farms, conducted by a group of farmers. To these farms, the government has, within the past three years, supplied 150,000 tractors and a huge amount of other scientific farming implements. The government hopes to provide these farms with 267,000 tons of superphosphates for spring fertilization purposes before the end of March.

Some of the problems to be overcome which the delegates discussed were: mastery of the machinery placed at their disposal by the government; raising of the productivity of labor and machinery; increase of crop yield per acre, and the extermination of any remaining anti-revolutionary and "kulak" elements.

## CROPPERS' TRIAL SET FOR APRIL 7

Deny Private Interview  
to I.L.D. Lawyer

DADEVILLE, Ala., April 2.—The 7th of April has been definitely set as the date for the trial of the 18 Negro sharecroppers indicted by the Tallapoosa grand jury, following an attack upon them by deputy sheriffs. Four Negro croppers—one of them Cliff James—were killed when an attempt was made to seize the mule and other mortgaged personal property belonging to James.

Circuit Judge William B. Bowling will preside at the trial, with Solicitor R. H. Powell as prosecutor.

Irving Schwab, lawyer for the International Labor Defense which is

defending the share croppers, 14 of whom are being sought by posse, came here yesterday to see the jailed Negroes. When they were brought out of their cells, the I.L.D. attorney demanded that the sheriff leave and permit a private interview. The latter, however, bluntly refused, stating: "These are our Niggers and we know how to take care of them. They are going straight to the penitentiary, and nobody can talk to them unless I am present." Following a sharp and lengthy argument, Schwab left, denouncing the action of the prison officials as a "flagrant disregard of the constitutional rights of the prisoners."

## Reviving the Slaveowners' Logic to Bar Negroes from Ala. Juries

to "Keep their place."

(By Our Special Correspondent)

DECATUR, Ala. (By Mail). — "The local Negro business man, was to niggers here becoming ~~white~~ be cross-examined by the prosecu- uppity already ~~as~~ result of this, the first thing Attorney-General Knight asked was for his first man when a local Negro testified in name. And he continued to call him the court that he had never seen or "Henry" as if he were addressing a heard of a Negro serving on a jury child, although Mr. Banks was old in Morgan County.

Dramatic clashes between the defense and the state over the right of Negroes to sit on juries have occurred throughout the first week of action. The second Scottsboro trial. It is now generally being said that the coiled as if he had been hit between the eyes.

"State in a Corner". With a persistent logic and directness the defense has pushed the State of Alabama into a corner from which there is no getaway. It has shown that Negroes are excluded from jury service systematically by having Negroes themselves testify to that in court. Negroes have come voluntarily to prove that they are eligible for jury duty and have never been called or even considered for jury service. Hundreds and even thousands of Negroes from Jackson and Morgan Counties are ready to do likewise.

With his every word Attorney-General Knight of Alabama has simply supported the self-evident truth that there are no Negro jurors in circuit or state courts in the South.

When he tried to show that Negroes are excluded not because of their color but because they are not qualified for other reasons, witnesses appeared about whom there could not be the slightest shadow of a doubt that they are fully qualified according to all the conditions of bourgeois law.

DRASTICALLY every one of the twelve Negro witnesses of Morgan County who testified in court on Thursday was incidentally, a graduate of a college, some of them from a number of universities. They were either preachers, doctors, school principals or responsible for other important social work. They testified not only because they had the personal courage to brave the storm, but because that courage was given them by the mass defense movement. It was apparent from the whole attitude of the prosecution and the court that even these upper-class, relatively "highly esteemed" members of the community were made

"None of 'Em Fit"

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—Ed.), set up in the heat of passion against the South immediately following the war between the states, shall remain inflexible at this late date, to the obliteration of the principle of state rights, is a matter of more interest to the South than to any other section of the country."

GAIN, as in the days of slavery, when the witness quite heatedly raised, with the foregone conclusion of the revolution of the Civil War decade were "obviously punitive" and that they should be so enough to be the General's father. A

The prosecutor for the state of Alabama pointed a threatening finger at Reverend W. J. Wilson, a Baptist minister, college graduate and principal of a school and declared: "I mean to challenge the fitness of this man for jury service." With this action he showed clearly that he did not think any Negro fit for jury service, even those much better qualified by bourgeois standards than the Negroes themselves.

This battle cry, however, will prove

to be antiquated. Old issues have reappeared, but this time in a new

contingent and with new classes at dagger-points. The solution of this problem history has long since taken out of the hands of the old contending classes of the Civil War

Days—the slaveowners and the northern bourgeoisie. It has placed it in the hands of the working class, of the Negro masses on Southern plantations. The struggle for its solution adds fire to the all-encompassing struggle against the bourgeoisie.

The forces of "white supremacy" must not only admit that Negroes

are not permitted to serve on juries, but they must admit this in the face of a mighty challenge. That is the rub.

THE climax came Thursday afternoon when Samuel Liebowitz, head of defense lawyers, told the prosecutor that he either admit the self-evident fact that Negroes are systematically excluded from juries or he will subpoena the whole jury roll from which the venire of 100

was drawn for the Haywood Patterson case. There are about 1,500 names on this list. The Judge was forced to order the huge volume containing the jury list into the court and Mr. Tidwell, one of the three county jury commissioners was instructed to go down the list and call off all the names he knew. Of course they all turned out to be white.

And so will everyone of the others listed in this book. The motion to quash, entered by Irvin Schwab, of New York, employed by the International Labor Defense to defend the negroes, alleged that the defendants' constitutional rights were violated through systematic and arbitrary exclusion of negroes from juries, solely because of their race."

After hearing arguments, Judge Bowring denied the motion and set the trials for April 25, when Schwab will seek to quash the venire drawn to try the negroes on the same grounds.

The negroes were indicted on March 30 of assault with intent to murder, for alleged participation in race disorders in

which three negroes were killed and four deputies sheriff were wounded.

The negroes facing trial are: Judson Simpson, Sam and Clinton Moss, Ned Cobb and Alf White.

The disorders had their inception at the home of Cliff Jeans, one of the three negroes killed, when officers sought to serve a writ of attachment on some mules under a mortgage foreclosure.

The officers reported from 75 to 100 negroes were gathered at Jeans's home and opened fire on them. In the pitched battle that followed the four officers were wounded and retreated to summon aid.

Jeans who was wounded later surrendered to officers at Tuskegee and was removed to the Montgomery County Jail where he died.

The outbreak was the second to occur in this County. In July, 1931, Sheriff J. Kyle Young was wounded seriously and a deputy also was hurt as a "lookout" for a meeting of members of the Share Croppers Union opened fire on the officers.

A number of negroes were arrested following the outbreak but later were released.

## Sharecroppers from Black Belt Tell Own Story

Letters from Negro farmers from the Black Belt, the District where the Sharecroppers Trial is about to take place, will be published in the Daily Worker on Saturday, April 22.

Alabama

Agriculture - 1933

Labor Conditions

# SHARE-CROPPERS STAGE WAR WITH SHERIFFS IN DIXIE

(Special to the Courier's Washington Bureau)

DADEVILLE, Ala., Jan. 5.—Quiet by a group of Negroes inside the house.

reigned in Tallapoosa County to night after 24 hours of disturbances that caused the death of one Negro, wounding of four deputy sheriffs, and the arrest of six alleged leaders of the Share Croppers Union.

Scores of newspapermen, both white and colored, followed the route of the posse despite the fact that the sheriff had issued orders for them not to do so. Possemen in the search for the leaders found letters from a headquarters in Birmingham advising how to proceed in case of disturbances. Other pamphlets seized instructed the croppers to demand a greater share of their crops, the privilege of selling their cotton as they chose and social and political equality.

The International Labor Defense advised that it will defend the Negroes, believed in hiding in the swamp which is near the home of Cliff Jeans, where the disturbances had their inception, were two brothers and another Negro as yet unidentified. While Sheriff Young declined to discuss the next move with newspapermen, other officials said that the six or eight leaders the posse sought, apparently escaped or had gone into hiding and would be taken into custody on poor farmers when they attempt to organize around their immediate needs.

Officers stated that they found the names of all the leaders of the local Share Croppers Union and they were the only ones sought. Four of these have been arrested MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 8.—(AP) Th sheriff revealed the names of three men that he had taken into custody but steadfastly refused to divulge the name of the fourth of Tallapoosa county. Two others were being held at We tumpka.

A check on reports revealed to the correspondent that the only person known to have been killed stock belonging to Cliff Jeans, negro was Jim McMullen, reputed leader of the Union. His body was found at the home of Cliff Jeans where the uprising began. The number of Negroes wounded in the skirmishes could not be ascertained.

IVY MOSS DEAD;

4th VICTIM OF THE

ALA. LANDLORDS

Denial of Medical

Aid Resulted in

Pneumonia

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan.

11.—Ivy Moss, Negro cropper, died yesterday several days after mass pressure effected his release from jail. He was one of seven croppers released following the wholesale arrests made by the sheriffs after the Battle of Reeltown in which Negro croppers and exploited farmers heroically defended themselves against the armed landlord-police lynch gangs seeking to smash the Share Croppers Union and terrorize the Negro toilers.

Moss died of pneumonia as a result of exposure and lack of care while he laid wounded in jail. Moss' death increases the known number of Negro dead to four. At least one cropper was murdered following the Battle of Reeltown. Cliff James and Milo Bentley, leaders of the Croppers Union at Reeltown, were murdered in jail by denial by the authorities of medical attention for their wounds. The murder of the four croppers lies directly at the doors of the rich landlords of Tallapoosa County, their police and their Negro reformist agents at the head of Tuskegee Institute, who betrayed Cliff James and another cropper into the hands of the police.

Jug Moss, another of the released croppers, is reported dying. He was the one who nursed Cliff James and Milo Bentley while they were confined together in a dark cell and denied medical aid. Jug Moss had been threatened by the landlords and their sheriffs with lynching since he was released. Similar threats have been made against many other croppers in the Reeltown section. Only the firm solidarity of many of the white croppers with the Negro crop-farmers in the joint struggle against starvation has prevented the carrying out of these threats.

The landlord-police terror continues, however, and whole families, including infants at their mothers' breasts, are reported sleeping in the brush in fear of another

murderous attack by the landlords and their deputized thugs.

Adjourn Trial.

The state has adjourned to Wednesday, Jan. 18, the hearing on the cases against five Negro croppers still held in jail. The hearing had been set for today. The adjournment was ordered by the court over the strenuous protests of the International Labor Defense attorneys defending the croppers.

NEGRO FAMILIES

SLEEP IN BRUSH

Fear New Attack of  
Ala. Landlords

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 12.—Widespread terror continues against the Negro croppers and exploited farmers of Tallapoosa County in the Alabama "Black Belt" as the hearing on the cases of the five Negro croppers still held in jail has been postponed to next Wednesday evening. The strenuous protests of the International Labor Defense attorneys. Negro sharecroppers have been beaten up in several sections. Whole families are sleeping in the brush because of landlord-police threats of a new armed attack as at Reeltown, Dec. 19.

Miners In Protest.

PORTAGE, Pa., Jan. 12.—At a mass meeting in the Hungarian Hall, Portage, the miners of Portage and vicinity adopted a resolution protesting the armed attacks by sheriff posses and landlords on the members of the Share Croppers Union in Tallapoosa County, Ala. The resolution has been forwarded to Gov. B. M. Miller, Montgomery, Ala. The meeting was held under the auspices of Local 301 of the National Miners Union.

Hungarian Workers Demand Croppers Freed

CLEVELAND, O., Jan. 12.—The members of the Hungarian Workers Home Association assembled at their semi-annual meeting unanimously adopted a protest resolution against the landlord-police terror in Alabama, and demanded the release of the arrested Negro croppers.

3,000 IN MASS FUNERAL FOR 2 NEGRO CROPPERS

White Workers Join Struggle Against Landlord Terror

COPS RUSH PROCESSION

New York  
Prevent Addresses at the Cemetery

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 8.

Three thousand workers, including 150 whites, attended the mass funeral yesterday of Cliff James and Milo Bentley, two of the leaders of the Sharecroppers Union murdered by the Tallapoosa County landlords, their police and Negro reformist agents following the Battle of Reeltown, Dec. 19, when 150 Negro croppers and exploited farmers heroically defended themselves against the armed attacks of landlord-police lynch gangs.

Prevent Jim-Crow.

An additional thousand workers crowded the sidewalks along the route of the funeral procession, demonstrating their sympathy with the struggles of the croppers and exploited farmers of Tallapoosa County, Ala., against landlord robbery and terror and national oppression. An attempt by the authorities to separate the white and Negro marchers was successfully resisted.

Large forces of police were on the streets in an attempt to intimidate Negro and white workers from marching in the funeral procession. This attempt failing, the bodies of the murdered cropper leaders were rushed from the funeral home under police escort and hurriedly placed in the graves to prevent funeral orations at the cemetery. Negro and white speakers were then forcibly ejected from the cemetery by the police.

Tours for Mrs. James, Bentley.

The march to the cemetery was headed by Mrs. Nancy James and Mrs. Gussie Bentley, wives of the two murdered leaders. The Southern District of the International Labor Defense is arranging a state-wide tour for Mrs. James and Mrs. Bentley.

Cliff James was one of two Negro cropper leaders turned over to the landlords' police bloodhounds by the reformist officials of Tuskegee Institute.

The I. L. D. is continuing the fight for the release of the croppers still held in jail. Mass pressure already has forced the courts to release seven of the defendants. Working-class and sympathetic organizations are urged to rush resolutions and telegrams to Gov. B. M. Miller, Montgomery, Ala., demanding the immediate, unconditional release of all arrested croppers and exploited farmers, and of the nine Scottsboro boys.

#### Tells of Beating.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 8.—Mrs. Gussie Bentley, wife of Milo Bentley, one of the murdered Reeltown, Ala., leaders of the Sharecroppers Union, told today how white sheriffs and deputies went to her home on Dec. 19, the day of the Reeltown Battle, and savagely beat her up. Mrs. Bentley is here with Mrs. Nancy James to attend the mass funeral today of their murdered husbands.

## '33 Farming In Alabama Begun

Improvement In Livestock, Better Seed, Economies Provide Cheerful Outlook

By P. O. DAVIS

AUBURN, ALA., Jan. 14.—(Special)—With several bright spots which bid fair to become major agrarian lights in Alabama, 1933 farming in the State has been started. Among these are improvements in livestock, better seed, richer and where livestock and legumes have been used, a better balanced system on many farms and rock-bottom economies in production as well as in marketing.

The brightest spot now visible is presented by poultry. Prices of eggs are high enough for satisfactory returns on those farms where modern production methods are being practiced.

F. N. Farrington, county agent, says that Tallapoosa County hens are making more clear money than all other farm enterprises combined. This county agent is making poultry a major project in the county, composed of small farms and rolling land where conditions are favorable for cackling hens and egg production as well as fryers, and other kinds of poultry for the market.

John W. Pate, of DeKalb County, reports that farmers who produced their feed are reaping a nice profit from poultry. Clyde Dunn says that much interest in poultry exists in St. Clair County; that 30 new poultymen will brood 100 to 500 chicks each, using homemade brooders in each instance.

Down in South Alabama, dairying on a small scale came in for favorable

comment by P. R. Pettis, Conecuh County agent. A cream shipping assembly station is in operation and 2,000 to 2,500 pounds of cream is shipped each week by 75 to 100 farmers. Monthly checks vary from \$15 to \$20 per individual.

From the same kind of business more than 300 Cullman County farmers received \$3,500 last year, and R. M. Reaves, county agent, said that the business has hairy vetch and Austrian pea seed as good prospects in 1933.

In both Conecuh and Escambia counties strawberry plants are now receiving attention. They are being fertilized, preparatory to making another crop. A fair prospect is in sight in Escambia County, reported H. H. Williamson.

Sam Doughty, Calhoun County agent, and L. M. Hollingsworth, of Randolph County, made particular mention of trench silos made and filled last Fall with ensilage by farmers in these two counties and now producing excellent feed at a very low cost. Calhoun County farmers say that the total cost did not exceed \$1.50 per ton for ensilage and all this is in man and mule labor.

From Madison County in the Tennessee Valley comes word from County Agent J. B. Mitchell that a supply of seed of good cotton is ample to plant the entire crop this year. Most of these seed were produced in the Lily Flagg community where only one variety of cotton was produced in 1932. D. P. L. 4-8 variety was selected because it is high in production and produces the quality of staple desired by Alabama mills. Because of this and other important work, reports Mr. Mitchell, buyers of cotton have placed this cotton on the premium list, thereby removing the penalty which existed two years ago because of short staple cotton.

Calhoun County, too, reports the eradication of cotton of inferior staples. Organized work with this in view was started in 1930. It was directed by County Agent S. R. Doughty, who had the cooperation of the county farm bureau and also bankers and business men. Results have come much faster than was anticipated, and job being completed in three years instead of five, the time named at the beginning to complete the work.

The soybean which does well throughout Alabama is one of the bright spots in the agriculture of the State. It is a splendid hay crop and farmers continue to produce it for different kinds of livestock. County Agent W. T. Coker says that 200 farmers of Talladega County have saved seed for planting and that livestock production is growing because of the increase in home-grown hay.

L. M. Hollingsworth, of Randolph County, reported last year 540 soybean hay demonstrations on 2,060 acres with a hay yield averaging 1 1-4 tons per acre.

H. C. Heath, of Chambers County, says that more than 50 per cent of Chambers County farmers produced soybean hay in 1932. A good many of them saved seed for planting.

But Clay County claims to be the leading Central Alabama county in the production of soybeans for seed, declares F. M. White, county agent. Farmers of this county saved last Fall more than enough seed to plant their own crop, consequently they will have some

for sale.

And Baldwin County, down on the Gulf coast, is going strong on soybean seed, as reported by County Agent E. E. Hale.

T. A. Carnes, county agent, says that Lamar County farmers have made an excellent start in the production of winter legume seed. Farmers in this county planted more than 100,000 pounds of hairy vetch and Austrian pea seed as compared with 30,000 pounds in 1931.

The goal is to continue winter legumes in Lamar County until each acre of land in cultivation has a blanket of green over it each Winter.

## 15 Miles from Tuskegee

The race riot in Alabama recently, which resulted in the killing of four colored share-croppers and the wounding of several white farmers, took place in Tallapoosa and Macon counties, about fifteen miles from Tuskegee Institute.

This is not a reflection upon Tuskegee, which for fifty years has built itself into a mighty educational force, until its graduates are scattered all over the country, and its influence has spread around the world.

It is a reflection upon these two counties of Alabama, and an indication of the great ignorance and poverty existing among the whites in this benighted state—an ignorance so dense that Tuskegee's light has been unable to modify and disperse it.

Is there hope in the South, where after 50 years of living close to an institution as fine as Tuskegee, native whites are still savagely anti-Negro? The AFRO does not think there is. To us, Tuskegee's sole function is to train young men and women how to get out of the South just as soon as possible.

Widows of two of the slain men, talking to newspapermen, said: "What will happen next, we just don't know. But whatever does happen, we want to get out of that place. We don't want our children to have to keep on living there and working on farms."

## MONTGOMERY, ALA.

ADVERTISER

JAN 12 1933

### A NEGRO'S REPORT ON MR. W. S. PARKER

Editor, The Advertiser:

After reading the striking article in The Montgomery Advertiser Wednesday, Dec. 28, 1932 by Mr. W. S. Parker, the Notasulga merchant, concerning the Tallassee trouble, I began to trace him, starting at Tuskegee through Macon and Lee County to Auburn, Ala., and to the Montgomery County Training School, colored. In his editorial he said for twenty-five or thirty years that he had been dealing with white and colored farmers in Macon, Lee and Tallapoosa Counties, and from that I was more anxious to find out about him, without his knowledge of it, or the knowledge of any one else.

As to what my intention was, I think when any trouble comes up between the races we should look into both sides of it, and make known the best things and the best spirit that have always existed between the two.

The article should be long remembered by every one that read it. And that is why I wanted to know from my race the evil or good of Mr. Parker. I was told by many who know him that he was a good and agreeable man to deal with. Some made remarks about

how many that would crowd in his store even now and receive that same old hearty welcome. I learn from them that he has always fostered the cause of Negro education, and said that he and Mr. T. M. McLendon put forth every effort to secure Professor E. J. O'Neal as Principal of the Montgomery County Training School. I have since that time talked to Prof. O'Neal. I stated to him about what I had heard, as to the friendliness of Mr. Parker and Mr. McLendon.

He said among his many white friends both of them were honored in that number, he said that when he was trying to get through school, he was aided by them in every way possible, and that in all of his past dealings with them, he found them always upright and fair, and he would at any time speak a good word for them.

Later I stopped in the friendly little town of Notasulga and while there I talked with Mr. R. L. Jackson, Mr. B. C. Freeman, Mr. M. W. Zachry, merchants, Mr. A. B. Hope, president of the First National Bank as to the friendly feelings between the white and colored in that section of the Country. Each of them spoke well of them and said that they had always stood by them and always would, when they came to them in the time of need.

I want to thank all of them for the information, and hope that the dark spots of cloud will soon pass away, and every day will bring a brighter blue sky for the success of both white and colored. For we all have to live together, not in the same houses but in the same town, Country and State.

COLORED EDITOR.

Agriculture-1933

Alabama

Labor Conditions.

# "You'll Find a Fighting Union in Tallapoosa County,

## CORRESPONDENT TELLS OF LIFE AND STRUGGLES OF SHARECROPPERS

—and his livelihood.

Jim McMullen was killed on the spot. Cliff James, Ned Cob and Tommie Moss were wounded. Cliff James later died in jail, after writhing for hours—in a delirium—on the filthy, damp cement floor of his cell in the county jail, his clothes ripped off of him.

Cliff James had only one bullet in him when he was turned over to "the law" by officials of Tuskegee Institute, but an autopsy after his death revealed two bullet holes. . . . Was the Negro sharecropper wantonly murdered in his cell?

CLIFF JAMES' brother-in-law, Judson Simpson, so his wife told me, wasn't even at the James cabin at the time of the shooting.

"Judson was sitting on this chair here," Mrs. Simpson told me. "A lot of machines stopped, and the mob crowd ran through the door—I don't know how many there were. They hit me over the head and bloodied me. The mob crowd cursed and swore about 'damn niggers.' One of them, the head man of the mob crowd, put his gun against Judson's head and shot him—twice. Then they went off, shooting at us through the fields as they ran...I reckon they

were. Scores of whites refused to join the lynch mobs, and as a result sheriffs of five counties were called upon to provide recruits for the "nigger hunt."

Later Judson was arrested and dragged off to the jail in Dadeville, while his two sons remained to tend the crops—so that the landlord Parker would have no excuse for seizing their mule and cow—after taking their father away.

After the brutal killing and the murderous "nigger-hunt" which drove scores of Negro croppers into the swamps where some of them spent weeks, Parker sent the sheriff and his men to the Cliff James farm. This time it was a pleasant, jaunty ride

The Landlord Writes to "My Good Colored Customers"

for the things. They came with dangerous weapons, and led away—so Cliff James' widow told me.

2 mules  
2 cows  
2 calves  
1 heifer

And everything else they could lay their hands on, Ludie James said. "They hauled away all the corn, too, and left only a bit for the hogs and the children—but all that is gone now."

"Cliff sure could talk pretty about the union," his wife had told me when I asked her about his activity as leader of the Negro sharecroppers.

W. S. PARKER, General Merchandise—This is the sign which hangs before a large store on the main street of Notasulga. Nearby is located his guano mill, which furnishes fertilizer to his Negro tenants and croppers who have to get credit from Parker, the merchant, to pay Parker, the mill owner. It was he who caused the killing of Cliff James, by sending his murderous deputies to seize his stock.

Hatred for Parker and the whole murderous landlord system of the South flared up among the sharecroppers. "He's got a bad heart in him, that man," Ned Cobb's wife told me, referring to Parker. Ned Cobb, too, is now on trial in Dadeville, charged with helping Cliff James protect his stock which meant life for his wife and seven children.

And as hatred for Parker sank deep into the hearts of the Negro croppers, so fear grew in the heart of the merchant-landlord Parker. Fear that he would lose trade in his store, fear that the Negro croppers would move off his land, and above all—fear of the growing power and influence of the Sharecroppers Union.

Parker knew that in every cabin in Tallapoosa County the Negro croppers called him a murderer. He saw his power over them slipping. So he decided to write to his "Good Colored Customers"—a form letter, full of wheedling sanctimony, reeking with hypocritical piety.

The landlord's letter, a copy of which the writer managed to obtain, follows:

W. S. PARKER

General Merchandise

Notasulga, Ala., Dec. 29, 1932.

To My Good Colored Customers:  
I feel I would be unfair to you and myself to not let you know that I feel safe in saying I know you was not a member of the share Croppers Union. Much less in sympathy with it. I say this because your actions have proven that to me. And I am as proud of the fact that I feel that way about you as you are. For that spirit is the worst thing that I have ever known of. As you know I started out with your color. (Making profit out of Negroes—S. G.). I feel safe in saying, that I know I have always had at heart the poor class of people problems as much so as possible for any living being to have. I wish it was possible for me to let you know how I have felt about those that had been led

to bad that I wish I could get it off my mind. But it is on us and we must not give up. As I have told lots of my customers in these hard times we must not give up. After all as bad as it is I feel they are to be pitied. For their ignorance was taking the advantage of and the hard times to get them to the point to where they were. And I figured they picked me out as about the easiest one to try to put the job over.

So when you think of all this matter with him. As well as some others. Well this makes me feel

(Those who joined the Sharecroppers Union—S. G. I have



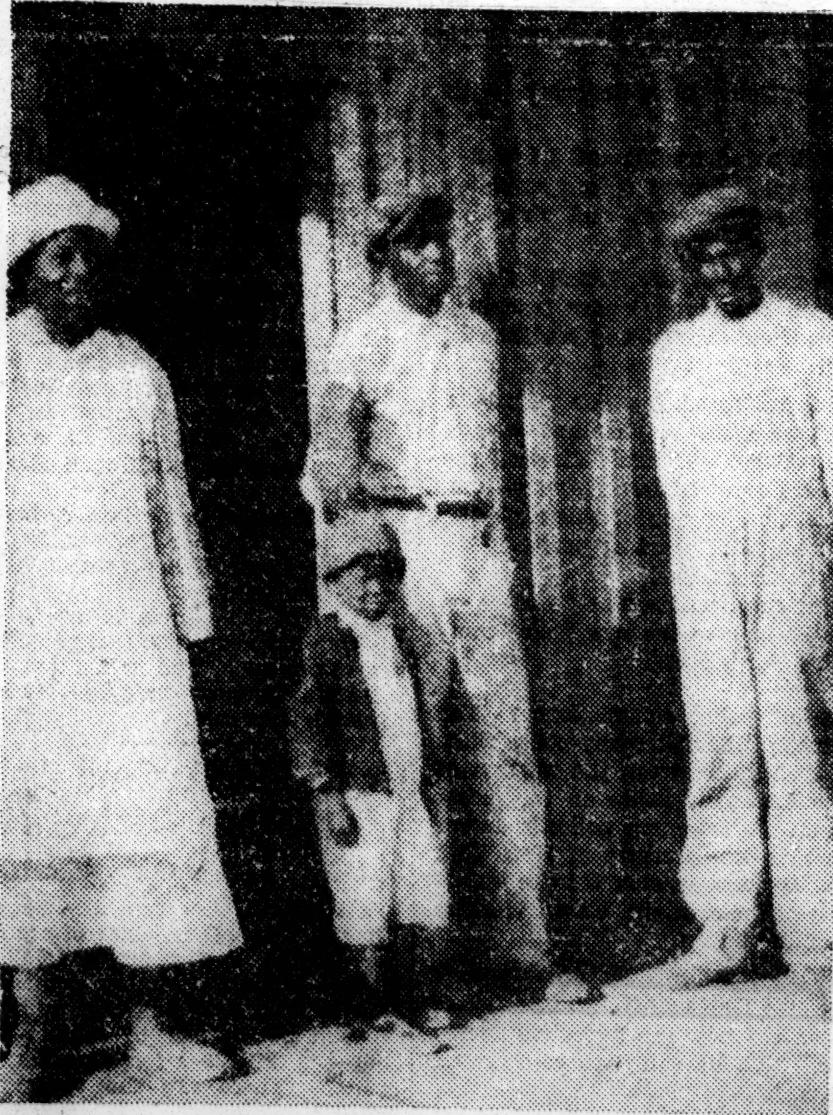
Mrs. Cliff James (left) and Mrs. Milo Bentley (right). Their husbands were murdered by landlord's deputies.

Judson for dead."

A neighbor—a white farmer—from the shack and fired more than one hundred rounds of ammunition at the Negro croppers, members of the Sharecroppers Union who had come to help Cliff James defend his stock through the countryside like prairie

hard on me for as I have already said I know I have tried to do as much as was possible for all the people in this section. And the greatest percentage of my customers are your color. And I got a great pleasure out of dealing with all so long as their spirit has been like yours. And I have not lost confidence yet for there are a few that has not shown they are in sympathy. (With the union—S.G.). And lots that has no doubt have already seen their mistake.

I felt like I wanted to let you know how I felt. And wanted to let you know your way of living and acting is appreciated now as never before. And I do not want you to think I'm saying that you lives have not been appreciated. But I have a reason for appreciating



Mrs. Judson Simpson, wife of sharecropper just convicted in Dadeville frame-up trial, and her three sons, photographed before their shack in Reeltown, Ala.

your life now as never before. And I want you to know that it is not only me. The whole state appreciates citizens like you. You have always stood for the right thing and you know that always pays. There is never nothing so bad but there is some good. And I yet this thought out of this bad affair. Possibly if it had not been for this you would never had the opportunity to know what your lives are worth to your country. And I would never thought to have let you know how I appreciate you. For when you turn as some others

have I do not desire to be here any longer.

(Signed) W. S. PARKER.

"**NIGGERS** ain't fittin' to sit on juries," Tidwell, the jury commissioner of Morgan County had testified in the Scottsboro trial, when asked why Negroes are systematically excluded from both grand and petit juries.

Landlord Parker most certainly serves on juries . . . What's more he has a thing or two to say to Solicitor Richard H. Powell and former Congressman Bowling, the circuit judge, both of whom are seeking to send five sharecroppers to the Alabama penitentiary for long terms.

In many Southern states Negroes are expected to recite the constitution of the United States from memory, and interpret it to the complete satisfaction of the white masters of the South before they are permitted to vote.

But no such qualifications are expected of Landlord Parker whose letter to the croppers is, among other things, a "classic" of literary composition.



The "home" of Judson Simpson and his family, the first place raided by the sheriff's posse following the attack on the sharecroppers.

# CONVICT 5 TALLAPOOSA Daily Worker 4-28-33 NEGRO CROPPERS; I.L.D. ASSAILS ALA. PEONAGE

International Labor Defense Appeals Case;  
Workers Must Rally to Aid of Croppers

## BULLETIN

DADEVILLE, Ala., April 27.—Vicious sentences were today meted out to the Tallapoosa sharecroppers. Ned Cobb was sentenced to the state penitentiary for 12-15 years; Judson Simpson, 10-12 years; Alf White and Clinton Moss, 10-12 years; Sam Moss, 5-6 years. Bail was refused for all except Sam Moss. In sentencing the defendants, Judge Bowling revealed clearly that the basis for vicious sentences was hope of crushing the Sharecroppers' Union.

DADEVILLE, Ala., April 27.—"Guilty"—this was the verdict brought in today by the jury in the Tallapoosa case against the five Negro sharecroppers charged with "assault with intent to murder." Judge Bowling announced from the bench that he would fix sentence soon. Fourteen other croppers had also been indicted, but have not yet been put on trial.

The croppers, Judson Simpson and son, Ned Cobb, Sam Moss, Alf Hunger marchers and pickets on White and Clinton Moss face strike.

### 17 Negroes Testified

citing the attacks on the Bonus and prison terms ranging from two to 20 years on each of four counts. They were arrested after the appearance of no less than 17 sheriff's deputies attacked Cliff James Negroes who testified for the defense and other members of the Sharecroppers' Union who resisted the attempt to seize James' mule, cow and other stock for an alleged debt due to Deputy Cliff Elder that he could not take the stock, and admitted of Natasulga, Ala.

### To Appeal

Irving Schwab and A. W. Morrison, attorneys for the International Labor Defense, immediately announced that they would carry the case to the Alabama Court of Appeals.

The jury brought in its verdict after "deliberating" one hour and twenty minutes after listening to speeches by ex-Senator Thomas J. Heflin and Prosecutor Powell which bore a striking resemblance to the ranting, venomous speech made by Solicitor Wade Wright at the trial in Decatur of Haywood Patterson, one of the Scottsboro boys.

### Expose Slave System

Defense Attorney Schwab in his summation described the plight of the tenant farmers and sharecroppers as well as the workers in the cities of the South. Replying to Heflin who appealed for the maximum penalty in the name of "law and order," Schwab said that "the most brutal

"we're coming back and shoot all the niggers in this crowd."

The condemned Negro croppers expressed faith and confidence in the workers and farmers, as represented by the I. L. D. fight.

(See special feature story on Page 2 on the background of the Tallapoosa struggle, written by our correspondent on the scene.)

Agriculture - 1933

Alabama.

Labor Conditions.

# SICKNESS, STARVATION, ROBBERY BY BOSS IS DAILY EXPERIENCE IN THE SOUTH, SON OF ALA. SHARECROPPER TELLS CORRESPONDENT

The following is a literal description of the life of turpentine workers and share-croppers in Southern Alabama as told recently to a Daily Worker Correspondent—Editor's Note).

MY father was a share cropper for he goes in to draw his time the man W. H. Rhine, but the main owners will hand him a dollar or so and say are Everett and Boykin. My father that he will have to make out with raised a crop on this agreement: that and take the rest out in trade in They raised the crop on halves; the the store. Unless he trades with him landlord furnished the supplies, my during the summer time, when tur-father and brothers were to do all pentine work closes down, he won't the work raising the crop. There allow him to trade with him in the was a big family of us at the time winter. If he don't trade the year and at the price he was selling his round he can't get anything. groceries for, it cost us about \$15 a week at his store—where he charges changing of clothes and can't get 3 prices for everything—3 times town them.

Twenty-four pound sorry grade flour he charges \$1.00, you get in town for 45 cents; this salt side And the government work supposed meat is 8 or 9 cents in town, he to be going on there—this road work charges 25 or 30 cents a pound for it; Unless you are in good standing with this rapside bacon he charges 35 cents some of the men or have some pull where you can buy it for 14 cents in you can't get a job on the road. There town; this green coffee sells about are ten of us in the family and after three lbs for 25 cents, two lbs. from working in two different counties him is 35 cents; this tobacco he sells and work on the road they did give —in town it is .5 cents a plug and he my father four days work at a dollar sells for 35 cents. And clothing: You a day to support ten. When you go to can give him an order for a pair of get a job on the road you go to a shoes or shirt or something and he desk where a lady writes you up and will get the shoes from Mobile for questions you as far back as she can 75 cents or \$1 and he will charge think of. They try to get excuses to you \$2.50 or \$3.00 a pair.

## "THEIR FEET CRACK OPEN"

The children that's living on that company's land have to go bare footed so long that in cold weather their feet crack open and get big sores on them. The children are eat up with hook worms from the soil from going bare footed. Some of them get sick—they get so weak from worms, they get down sick and lay in bed for months at a time. They can't hardly get any medicine or doctors. You have to notify health officers and the commission is supposed to be looking out for people in that shape. When women are down with children or they give birth to a child, they have to eat common food—salt meat and beans and corn bread. They have no milk. If you are sick you can't get a doctor unless you have cattle or have something that can port-gage or give him to stand good for the bill until you can pay it.

TURPENTINE workers are raising

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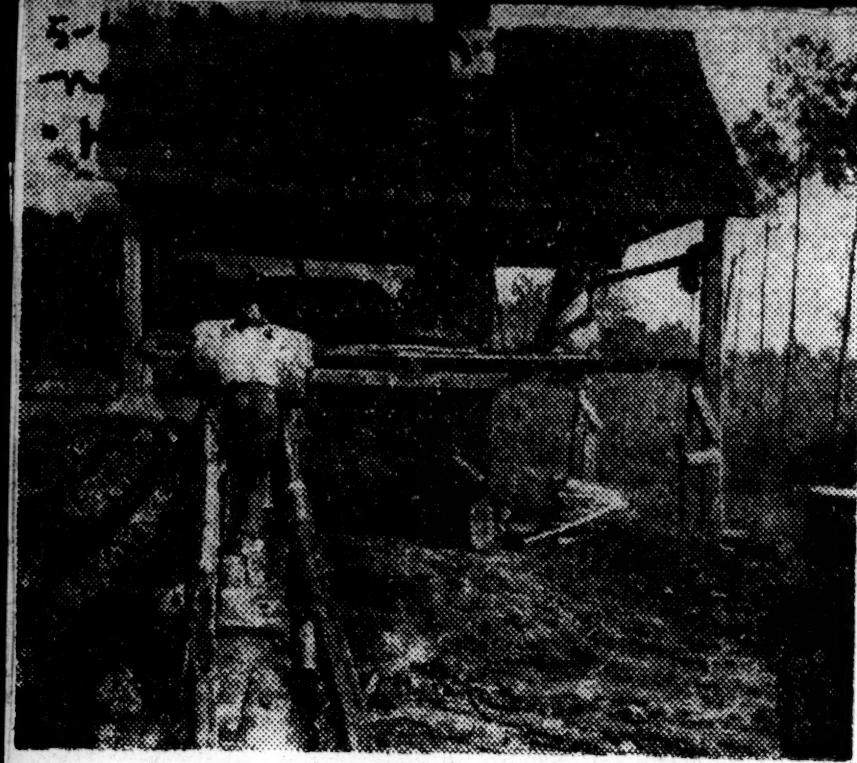
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Turpentine Worker in Southern Alabama

## Sharecropper, Kin of Life, Struggles Describes Alabama Slain Ralph Gray,

By HELEN KAY

**NEW YORK.**—A sharecropper from the sunny South is in New York. He tells a story of life and struggle in the state of Alabama that for drama makes the plays on Broadway look sick.

His name is John Moore. He is 31 years old. He comes from that territory that has become tradition in the revolutionary toilers' movement, from Tallapoosa county.

He is a relative of Ralph Gray, murdered sharecropper, and one of four organizers whose head a price of fifty dollars has been set.

Tall, stocky, with strong features from tilling the soil, he tells the story of those early days when the sharecroppers union was first formed, in a monotone, as though the grim horror of those first few nights, were something apart from actual experience.

"In the beginning one of my cousins spoke to me. 'Let's go over to Rome tonight,' he asked. 'A fellow over there, I like the way he talks. He tells about better conditions for colored people and workers, and he's arranging for us to meet.'

"I didn't go that night. But I went another night. And I also liked the

way he talked. I liked it heaps. He was talking about me. So I joined.

### Copies of Daily Worker Helped

"They gave us Daily Workers that night. I took a batch home to give to my friends. We couldn't understand then what the Daily Worker said altogether. But we understood it in spots. Anyway it helped the speaker to show what he meant about the working people."

John Moore told of how the meetings began to grow larger. How the people from his territory had to walk four and a half miles to get to the meeting. Then the crowd grew so huge that they had to break it up, because they all couldn't get into the house. They divided into two groups so that those from the center of Camp Hill could have meetings nearer home.

### Landlord's Sheriffs Break Up Meetings

"The first Wednesday night we had a success. The next Wednesday night see you get into trouble," said Young, "the law came down." John Moore told the law. That night they went to Tom what happened when the law arrived.

A picture of a crowded rickety farm house and a young organizer speaking the law didn't come back. So they to them from the table. He, too, was left. They arrested two sharecroppers a sharecropper, but from another that night. Then after they left, the mob went to Tom's house. Tom was bed. They beat him up. They even whipped his wife and hit his baby, who was only two years old.

what we're trying to tell you yet. If the law should come in, and ask you what you're doing here, you tell them that you don't know. That's the truth. You don't know yet," he said.

"And it was just then that the law broke in on the meeting. They run in," declared John Moore.

Carl Young and all the other fifteen deputies who broke into the meeting were known to Moore for years. Moore was sitting in the middle of the floor. Armed to the teeth, pistols, rifles, blackjack. "What kind of damned meeting are you having here?" they demanded.

### Hits Negro for Not Answering "Sir"

No one answered. Tom Gray and Ralph Gray were there. Tom's daughter was the secretary. The deputy wanted to know who the secretary was. Tom Gray said he didn't know. "You is a damn liar," yelled Carl Young. "No, I'm not," answered Tom. "Can't you say, No sir," yelled the law, Young. "No," answered Tom Gray. Young picked up a pistol and hit him with it. People began to run. Ralph Gray picked up his gun to fire. His sister grabbed the gun away from him.

Young came over to John Moore. "What kind of meeting is this?" he asked. Moore remembered the instructions of the organizer. "That's what I'm trying to find out," he answered. "Where's the speaker?" was

## Murdered Cropper



RALPH GRAY

this next question. "I don't know," answered sharecropper Moore.

### "Well, tell your speaker to go to church and hold his meeting there."

"The first Wednesday night we had I know you boys, and I don't want to get into trouble," said Young, "the law came down." John Moore told the law. That night they went to Tom

what happened when the law arrived.

Gray's house to help watch. The house and a young organizer speaking the law didn't come back. So they to them from the table. He, too, was left. They arrested two sharecroppers a sharecropper, but from another that night. Then after they left, the mob went to Tom's house. Tom was bed. They beat him up. They even whipped his wife and hit his baby, who was only two years old.

cemetery, but they wouldn't let us bury it, and we couldn't tell whether it was Ralph Gray or not, because they wouldn't let us open the box."

### Wholesale Arrests of Croppers

They arrested 15 sharecroppers that night. When they finished the round-up, they had 32 men, women and children under arrest. All they could get. After fifteen or sixteen days, they came to question the croppers. "Do you belong to a union?" they wanted to know. The croppers didn't deny it. "Do you want lawyers?" The landlord of the big Gin and Fertilizer Company wanted to know this. They knew he was no friend of theirs, and they refused his help.

Finally the International Labor Defense came down. They all rested then. Soon after they were turned out of jail two at a time in the middle of the night. Tom Gray and his boy were the last to get out. They 'Going home,' answered Ralph. "Where were in jail for two months. The you been?" they wanted to know. whole settlement had thought that 'Been hunting,' answered Ralph Gray. They would never be seen again. "This 'Give us your gun, nigger,' ordered opened the people's eyes. And then the deputies. 'I'll not,' answered they came in by the hundreds. They piled into the union. That was the beginning of the union," John Moore told the story in graphic style.

the New York workers.

Workers, write to the **Daily Worker**. Arrange for speaking appointments. Help the sharecroppers of the South to build a mass sharecroppers' union. They have 5,000 members now. They want to have 10,000 soon. Show your solidarity with the Southern workers who have shown that they are first-rate fighters.

"Use my name, that's okay. Go right on. I know what's facing us in the South. They know me. Whatever happens, let it come. The work will go on." That is John Moore's story.

The next night they went to Rome. The croppers carried their guns. "We walked along the road and a car came up. We all hid on the side of the road. All except Ralph Gray. He was brave. Ralph stayed on the road. Where of the night. Tom Gray and his boy were the last to get out. They 'Going home,' answered Ralph. "Where were in jail for two months. The you been?" they wanted to know. whole settlement had thought that 'Been hunting,' answered Ralph Gray. They would never be seen again. "This 'Give us your gun, nigger,' ordered opened the people's eyes. And then the deputies. 'I'll not,' answered they came in by the hundreds. They piled into the union. That was the beginning of the union," John Moore told the story in graphic style.

### Tells of Murder of Ralph Gray

"They shot at Ralph twice from the car. He fell. He levelled his gun. He fired with both barrels. The shots went off. They hit Sheriff Young. He wore a breast plate, and the shot flew all over, but even so, he was wounded, because the shot was fired at such close range. The deputies got scared, they picked up the law, and carried him to the hospital."

That night the law organized a gang. Nearly a hundred cars came to Ralph Gray's shack. There were 30 to 40 sharecroppers there. They couldn't buy ammunition. Most of them only had two or three shells. Everyone chipped in their shot. The speaker told about the International Labor Defense, but, "we couldn't see that far. We got tired of lynching and we decided to do what we could." Determination rang in Moore's voice.

"The gang came. For thirty minutes we shot them off. A fierce battle, and we ran them off. We had nothing left but empty guns. So we left. But they came back. And they shot Ralph as he lay in bed. They took him away with all his bed clothes. They carried him to a county seat. They threw to find a way to get to these people. Money is the big problem. We've got him out in the yard, with 86 holes. They have stopped bothering us in Tallapoosa County. That's where we don't know to this day. They sent get our mail. They know they can't scare us anymore since Ralph Gray was killed."

### Moore Here to Aid His Fellow Croppers

John Moore is in New York to aid his fellow croppers in the south. New York workers are urged to arrange meetings for John Moore. He wants to tell the New York workers his story. He has much more to tell than I have related here. He wants help from

Alabama

Agriculture-1933

### Labor Condition

#### Another Share Cropper Dies.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 19.—A sharecropper, died last Tuesday from wounds inflicted in the general attack upon the croppers of Tallapoosa county on December 19. His death brought the official and admitted list of killed to four.

## Visit to Tallapoosa, Scene of Sharecropper Struggle.

(The following first-hand account of conditions of terror in Tallapoosa county, where four weeks ago a reign of murder and brutality was inaugurated by the white landlords and their sheriffs' gangs, is written by a white northerner, who travelled through the section last week.)

MASS murder of defenseless people is brewing in sections of Tallapoosa and Macon counties. White bullies, including Grady Daniel, Will Hill, and many others are stopping people on the roads and threatening to kill all Negroes.

Sheriff Ross Riley, of Macon County, is freely quoted as stating that he will "kill men, women and children to break up this mess (the Share Croppers' Union) if anything more happens like the past trouble." The murders in December were caused by white officers taking the little remaining food and means of living from various families.

Ku Klux Klan leaflets, bearing the address of Box 651 Birmingham, have been circulated in the section. These handbills threaten Negroes interested in their constitutional right of social equality or in the Communist Party. The Communist Party, under the law, enjoys every right of any other political party.

Gangs riding in high powered cars have prowled over side areas of the counties breaking into homes, stealing guns and ammunition and beating up women and children. A careful survey shows that hundreds if not thousands of dollars worth of weapons and ammunition has been confiscated by the prowlers. Eye witnesses tell of seeing guns stolen from Negro farmers and given to members of the mob. No Negro is allowed to buy ammunition today. During the series of raids conducted by the white sheriffs' gangs, over 50 homes, it is estimated, were pillaged. Trunks were broken open,

books searched and children threatened.

JUNGER is common in the area. Starvation is just around the corner in many of the tiny huts that shelter from 12 to 15 people. Afraid to sleep in their own homes many families are going to neighbor's house each evening. Broken windows, shot out sash torn up floors and roofs riddled with bullets can be seen in man shacks.

More than 50 people, members of over 12 families, are facing eviction. Landlords have told them where deputies murdered Ralph Grey, a leader of the Share Cropers' Union, summer before last. Most of these people have no place to move. Their landlords have also attempted to prevent and well disciplined Camp Hill land owners in the section near Tuskegee, about 15 miles away, from allowing the homeless farmhands to move into unoccupied lands.

WAGES in the section are as low as 40 and 50 cents per day well organized that they can protect themselves and the white ruffians. In cases where board is furnished the workers, it often comes as a result. There are several lists of cold scraps left from the white tenant farmers in the Camp Hill Share Croppers' Union. More

been told they would have to move now seeking admission. from their land if their wives did not wash for the white landlords. TUSKEGEE Institute is coupled with the sheriffs' gangs in the their tenants several times a day angry conversation of many farmers and telling them to keep quiet and not talk to anyone. They are also opposed to them as the landlords. inquiring for local news.

Stories of the worst brutality are heard on every hand. One school teacher, boarding with the family of a farmer, was whipped with ropes by a mob of whites. Sylvie Warren, a woman nearly 100 and blind, was severely beaten and cut with pistols in the hands of white men. Shells and bullets that were shot at women and little children can be obtained at almost any cabin in the Liberty Hill section.

Other men have sent defiant messages to bullies who have threatened them with death. These farmers say that they may be killed but they will at least die fighting.

A virtual urfew law is in effect.

Many farmers state that they do not dare to go away from home. Hundreds have been warned to stay away from the Liberty Hill area. Whites stop strangers of either race on the roads and inquire their business. In spite of the heroic defense of 150 crop-growers and exploited farmers against whites to break up the Share Croppers' Union in the trouble zone. The organization is young in that immediate locality. No trouble has been experienced near Camp Hill.

Negroes Barred. The International Labor Defense attorneys, Frank B. Irwin and Irving Schwab, appeared in a courtroom crowded with 300 white farmers, of whom very few were hostile. Negro croppers and farmers had been barred from the court by the authorities. The I. L. D. attorneys arrived too late to object to this exclusion of the Negroes.

The authorities finally revealed their charges against the croppers charging Ned Cobb with shooting Clifford Elder, one of the deputies wounded in the Reeltown Battle, but offering no proof to substantiate the claim. The others were charged with being accessories, but again no proof was offered except that they were present at the cabin of Cliff James when it was raided by the landlord-police gangs.

State Witnesses Lie. The I. L. D. attorneys charged that the five croppers are being held illegally for the Grand Jury. All witnesses for the state lied throughout the hearing. Afraid of the sympathy of the masses of white and Negro farmers with the struggles of the Negro croppers, the state witnesses concealed the fact that the true cause of the Reeltown Battle was the at-fault by the sheriffs to attach the negro's best stock of Cliff James.

The I. L. D. attorneys proved that the attachment papers were based on false grounds, claiming ownership of James' live stock by the white storekeeper, Parker.

Preadranged Killing. The state witnesses boasted on the

## HOLD FIVE ALA. NEGRO CROPPERS FOR GRAND JURY

*Daily Worker*  
Jailed After Reeltown  
Battle; Witnesses  
for State Lie

1-20-33

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 19.—In that the sheriffs had gone to James cabin on a prearranged plan for starting a slaughter against the members of the Share Croppers' Union. Only the militant resistance of the croppers forced the posse to retreat.

*Post*  
**BIRMINGHAM, ALA.**

**JAN 11 1933**  
**THE NEGRO'S FRIEND**

Two Alabama negroes, victims of vicious communist propaganda, were buried in Birmingham last Friday. They had died of wounds received in the recent Tallapoosa county disorder. Their bodies were brought here by International Labor Defense agitators, no doubt, for the purpose of stirring up more unrest and creating further strife between the white and negro races.

\* \* \*

Seizing upon the Scottsboro case as a vehicle of propaganda, the I. L. D. moved its southern headquarters to Birmingham and began issuance of a steady stream of inflammatory literature. Its agents, under charge, The others were charged with being accessories, but again no proof was offered except that they were present at the cabin of Cliff James when it was raided by the landlord-police gangs.

The success of their conspiracy is witnessed by the Tallapoosa county incident. But the blood of the three negroes who were killed is on the hands of the I. L. D. and may prove a boomerang.

The negro himself is beginning to open his eyes. To use words from a leader of his own race, he is beginning to wonder why it is that when someone goes to jail the negro always is the victim and never the agitator who has urged him on.

\* \* \*

The problem is by no means an easy one. It is made more difficult by the meddling of well-meaning but misguided white people in the north and east who do not understand the South's negro problem and who are too remote to check the twisted story the propagandist tells.

The South is yet a long way from a solution of its negro problem. But the southern white man is still the negro's best friend.

# "Some Day the Whole World Will Know It"

## Interview with the Widows of Slain Ala. Sharecroppers

We are re-printing from the "Birmingham World," a Negro weekly, the following article in connection with the Tallapoosa, Ala. atrocities because of the facts set forth as revealed by the widows of the two victims of the murderous assault by the authorities upon the share-croppers in that vicinity. The publication of this article in no way implies any endorsement of the policy of this paper—EDITOR'S NOTE.

By GORDON DE LEIGHBOR.

WHAT will happen next we just today conditions are worse.

don't know. But whatever does happen, we want to get out not allowed to sell their own cotton. Of that place. We don't want our children to have to keep on living treated even worse. While all the there and working on farms."

That is what the widows of Cliff the landlords have come to a point James and Milo Bentley say as where they curse the colored tenants tell the story of the Tallapoosa ant who dares to leave his plowing County massacre. Beaten and shot on a Monday to drive into town at and widowed, the destitute for food. All through the week women face the future with nine the farm work must be carried on. fatherless children, one shoot, one Only on Saturday afternoon may cow, a little corn, some fat meat, the farmer go to get his supplies the clothes they are wearing and from the store which the boss owns. a load of debt. They have one "Sometimes they gave us a receipt for what we bought; some-

The landlords and the white mob times they didn't," said one of the that called itself the law took widows. "They always kept the everything else away from the books and we were always in debt men when bullets in the back anyhow. Day after day we all snuffed out the lives of their hus-

For 12 years, Mr. and Mrs. Bent-  
**CHOOL—TWO MONTHS A YEAR**  
ey and their two children had Two or three months of school been with the same white man. a year is all the orphan children Now the children, a boy and a girl, have had. To secure even this scan-  
re 14 and 18. Back when they were ty education they have been forced born, even before they were born, to walk from two to three miles heir father and mother were in twice a day. Of course their par-  
lebt. Today Mrs. Bentley has aents bought their books. Meanwhile shoot and a cow and nothing to the children of the landlords rode feed them with. She is still stiff in comfortable busses to schools and sore from the merciless beat- where they studied in small class-  
ing given her by a mob of white men. She is worried about her children and the future is nothing but a blank wall.

### SEVEN IN JAMES FAMILY

There are seven children in James family. The youngest is a tot of seven while the oldest is 18. All have worked since they were old enough to toddle into the field or cent living conditions. All the people of the section rushed into family. Three of these children were treated by Dr. Dibble of as they heard of it. Even two

Tuskegee Institute, last year. Yet Dr. Dibble called the law when their father reached the school to ask for medical treatment. He had walked 17 miles with two quilts wrapped about him in order to obtain help. Instead he was bundled off into the jail where he died from his wounds.

THIS is the brief story that the widows tell. Behind that story is a perpetual struggle with debt and fear. Once Cliff James owned an automobile. The landlord told him that he could get no advance for the tag. So the car was sold. That happened a few years ago.

SOMEHOW the landlords heard of the union. They threatened

to kill off the women and chil- dren and to do anything else that

would break up the organization. They made good their threat in the murder of James and Bentley.

They made good their threat in shooting at Mrs. James and her son and cousin as they ran, un-

armed and terrified, across the fields.

Perhaps the union is dead today. Perhaps it is alive. Folks tell you that it will be alive again if it is inactive now. They say that more and more croppers will join it.

Many believe that white croppers will support it. They point to the two white men who came to the aid of the mob victims and say that these two are but the leaders of a considerable group who will

join in the fight for decent living conditions that is being made by the Share Croppers' Union.

"They shot through my bed-clothes. They shot a little boy in the leg. If you see my children, tell them to write to me."

### THE WIDOWS' STORY

This is what the mothers say. They tell you how white men whipped colored men at the cross-roads store owned by a landlord. They tell you how uneasy they were when their children played with white children. Very simply they say, "I don't know what will happen to my children. I've got nothing left. Just nothing." They also tell you how old literature was passed from hand to hand and from cabin to cabin. "Our husbands were good men. They never had any trouble with the landlords." This is the story of the widows of the men who died at the hands of the mob.

There are other details. Once one of the dead men was working at a cotton gin to earn a little money for clothes for his family.

puties attempted to serve attachment papers on the livestock of Cliff Jeans, negro tenant farmer living near Reeltown.

Jeans refused to surrender the livestock and the officers returned to Tallassee eight miles away, for assistance. When they returned to the Jeans home, more than 75 negroes had assembled and a pitched gun battle ensued.

One negro was killed at the home and two later died of their wounds in jail at Montgomery where they had been carried for safe keeping.

### Tallapoosa Riot Trial

## On At Dadeville Today

DADEVILLE, ALA., April 1.—(Special) — of 19 negroes arrested in connection with the rioting in Tallapoosa County in Dec. 14 when a number of negroes barricaded in the home of Cliff James, gave battle to four officers, is scheduled to open today in the Tallapoosa Circuit Court.

The negroes are charged with assault with intent to murder. All are alleged to have been occupants of the James home when the officers went to the home to serve a writ of attachment on some stock owned by James.

James, himself, was fatally wounded and died about a week later. Two other negroes also succumbed to wounds. Two of the officers were wounded during the battle.

## 19 INDICTED IN RACE DISORDERS

### April 7 Set By Solicitor As Tentative Date For Trial; Criminal Docket Crowded

DADEVILLE, March 31—The Tallapoosa county grand jury yesterday indicted 19 negroes for assault with the racial disorders last December at Reeltown, Ala., which resulted in the death of three negroes and the wounding of four deputies sheriff.

Four indictments were returned by the grand jury and the 19 negroes were named in each indictment. Their trial was tentatively set for April 7 but R. H. Powell, jr., circuit solicitor, said there might be a delay due to a crowded criminal dock-

The disorders arose when the de-

Agriculture-1933

Labor Conditions.

Alabama

# Strike of Negro Farm Workers Stops Pay Cut

Southern Industrial College Heads Cut Pay  
from \$1 to 40 Cents a Day

CAMP HILL, Ala., June 26.—Negro farm laborers employed on a plantation owned and controlled by the Southern Industrial College here, struck last week against a 60 per cent wage-cut which the college officials tried to put over. They forced the college to rescind the cut.

These laborers, like all other farm laborers and share-croppers, have slaved for years on the Alabama plantations, and today have nothing to show for their hard labor but blistered hands.

The workers on the college plantation were working 11 to 12 hours a day, from "too soon" to "too late". Lyman Ward, the college principal and manager of the plantation, thought that \$1 a day was too much for the workers to live on, and cut it down to \$.40.

Hoping to avoid payment of the \$1 wage, Ward went to consult with Pierce Smith, of the Planters Gin Co. which has kept the croppers of this region in terrible debt-slavery for years. Fear of the share-croppers' union forced both Smith and Ward to consider it advisable to return the cut at once.

Agriculture-1933

Labor Conditions.

# Defeat the Alabama Murder Drive

CLIFF JAMES, militant leader of the Share Croppers Union and Milo Bentley, active member of the union, are dead. Foully murdered! Two more are added to the victims in the recent outburst of ruling class terror in Tallapoosa. Cliff James, Bentley and the other share croppers, who gave their lives in the stubborn and heroic resistance to the murderous attacks of the capitalist-inspired lynch gangs at the battle of Reelton, died for the cause of Negro liberation. They gave their lives for the cause of the entire working class in their emancipation struggles from capitalist exploitation and slavery. These militant workers have not died in vain. Their death will kindle the flame of indignation throughout the country.

The deepening crisis accompanied by a sharp fall of cotton prices and other stable products of the south has resulted in the breakdown of southern agriculture. This has brought in its wake severe hardships for the vast masses of Negro and white exploited farmers. Wholesale evictions from the land, the theft of crops, confiscation of implements and livestock is on the order of the day. Death, disease, famine stalk through the countryside. The whole Negro farming population bear the full brunt of these conditions inasmuch as they are brutally beaten down by the most barbarous national oppression. This naked robbery of the impoverished farmers is upheld by the lynch terror, the courts and the government.

But the Negro farming masses are refusing to accept in silence these heinous conditions of violence, terror and suppression. The Negro share croppers have begun to move. They are organizing. They have built up the militant Share Croppers Union in important counties in the heart of the Black Belt. The spirit of revolt is breaking through the age-long oppression. All the accumulated hatred against their oppressors is breaking out in organized resistance. They have formulated their demands: the right to sell their own cotton, no confiscation of livestock or attachment of implements, no evictions or forced collection of debts, the right to organize for bread and to fight against terror and war. These are living demands. Already the struggles for these demands have wrested many concessions from the landowners.

The white ruling class saw in this growing organization a direct threat to their regime of murder and plunder. They saw in this the first signs of the growing revolts against Jim-Crow lynch reaction on the basis of which the landlord class has maintained its national oppression of the Negro masses. Their aim was to crush this growing movement, to behead the organization by attacking first of all its leadership. This is the essence of their bloody attack in Reeltown on December 19th. It was a deliberate provocation. They singled out Cliff James, the leader of the share croppers in Tallapoosa County, against whom to serve the attachment and foreclosure notice—as the first step in their drive to smash the union.

But they reckoned without their host. They failed to realize that the Negro masses will refuse to remain "in their places." They did not reckon with the growing sympathy among the poor white farmers for the demands and struggles of the Negroes. They thought they could incite them to vicious lynch-hatred with the old bogey of "race-riots." They were wrong.

Thus thwarted in their attempts to disrupt the organized movement of the poor farmers, they cowardly sought to vent their class hatred on the arrested leaders of this heroic struggle, James and Bentley. They received complete support from those cringing servile spirits of the imperialists—the Negro reformists. Cliff James, sorely wounded, hunted down like a dog by the bloodthirsty lynch posses, sought refuge in the militant organizations of the toilers. Organize your own workers Tuskegee Institute. The Negro authorities of the institute, at whose investigation with representatives from the toilers. Expose head is the despicable lackey, Dr. Robert Russa Moton, turned him over to the world the gruesome conditions under which you are forced to live. to the bloodhounds, just as they had only a day previous turned over another share-cropper.

Alabama

This disgusting act of treachery was accompanied by a call to the Negro masses to remain "peaceful" in the face of the murderous landlord police attack, and a call to the Negro press to lay down on publicity on their militant struggle. But this foul treachery of the reformist misleaders does not stop here. Dr. Eugene A. Dibble, Negro head of the Tuskegee Hospital, went to the extent of fabricating a lynch incitement statement for the police. He gave them the false information that Cliff James had confided to him that "he was sorry he didn't kill any of the officers." Thus the reformists of Tuskegee have well earned the applause of the Southern press and the lynchers. Sheriff Golden of Montgomery County puts it quite clearly:

"We are proud that we have the same intelligent leadership here in Montgomery that is exemplified at Tuskegee Institute..."

It is for "services of this kind that Dr. Moton, a member of the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People, was awarded the Spingard Medal at the last national convention. His "services" are in complete accord with the whole policy of betrayal of the other leaders of the N.A.A.C.P. who have remained conspicuously silent during the entire struggle. Is the N.A.A.C.P. maintaining this conspiracy of silence for the same reason that it did in the vicious frame-up of the 9 Scottsboro boys. Is it waiting to be "convineed" of the truth in the case?

Cliff James is dead—Bentley is dead! It is clear who is responsible for their murder. We charge the rich landowners of Alabama from Governor B. M. Miller down to their state and county officials with the murder. But the Southern landowning class alone are not guilty. They are the allies of Wall Street Finance Capital which controls the basic industries and large plantations of the South. We charge the imperialist ruling class of the United States and their Roosevelts and Hoovers who have sanctioned the whole lynch drive against the Negro masses for this

charge the Negro reformist misleaders of Tuskegee who represent an integral part of Negro reformism as represented by the N. A. A. C. P.—with the murder and the betrayal of the struggles for national liberation of the Negro people.

Let the voices of the masses of toilers—white and black—ring out clear and decisive in condemnation of this bloody murder. Let the powerful unity of the Negro and white protests thunder through this unholy alliance. Against this reactionary united front weld closely the unbreakable unity of the Negro and white toilers.

Answer this shameless murder of the Negro farmers by developing a nationwide movement of protest and action embracing every strata of the Negro and white toiling population. Organize huge demonstrations and mass meetings, in every locality, in support of the struggle of the Southern toilers. Demand the stopping of the reign of terror against Negro sharecroppers and tenants in the South! Demand the disbanding of the sheriff's posses! Demand the stopping of the disarming of the Negro farmers which leaves them helpless before the murder gangs of the white landlords! Demand the unconditional release of arrested Negro share croppers and punishment for the murderers! Demand the immediate stopping of evictions, no seizure of mules, cows, farm implements or household goods for debt! For the immediate unconditional freedom of the Scottsboro boys!

Toiling masses of the South! Strengthen and broaden the movement against landlord-capitalist suppression around these demands. Build up local conferences in every vicinity drawing into active participation the rank and file membership of the reformist organizations, unions, fraternal societies, churches, etc. Form Committees of Action in the neighborhoods, in the factories, on the plantations, in the schools.

Southern Workers and Farmers—Negro and white! Do not be fooled by the fake investigation proposed by the Southern bosses. This is an attempt to whitewash the lynchers and to prepare the ground for destroy-down like a dog by the bloodthirsty lynch posses, sought refuge in the militant organizations of the toilers. Organize your own workers Tuskegee Institute. The Negro authorities of the institute, at whose investigation with representatives from the toilers. Expose head is the despicable lackey, Dr. Robert Russa Moton, turned him over to the world the gruesome conditions under which you are forced to live. to the bloodhounds, just as they had only a day previous turned over another share-cropper.

JAMES and Bentley are dead. Hundreds of militant fighters should rise to take the place of our dead comrades. Build up the Share Croppers Union. Build up the Communist Party, the leader of mass struggles against starvation! The battle on December 19 again exposes the basis of the frightful national oppression of the Negro masses as well as the exploitation and robbery of the poor whites. It is the monopoly of the land by a small clique of Southern white ruling class slave-drivers backed up by the armed forces of the state, which enables them to keep these masses of Negro and whites in grinding poverty and misery.

The heroic struggles of the Negro share-croppers in Tallapoosa County, is another chapter in the struggles of Negro toilers for bread and freedom. This struggle under the leadership of the Communist Party, with the alliance of the white toilers, must lead to the confiscation of the land of the rich landowners and capitalists for the benefit of the Negro and white toilers; for the establishment of the right of self-determination for the Negro people in the Black Belt as the only final guarantee for national emancipation from landlord capitalist op-

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The heroic struggles of the Negro share-croppers in Tallapoosa County is another chapter in the struggles of Negro toilers for bread and freedom. This struggle under the leadership of the Communist Party, with the alliance of the white toilers, must lead to the confiscation of the land of the rich landowners and capitalists for the benefit of the Negro and white toilers; for the establishment of the right of self-determination for the Negro people in the Black Belt as the only final guarantee for national emancipation from landlord capitalism.



# Ballad of the Sharecroppers

By HARRY ALAN POTAMKIN

*Workers*  
In Tallapoosa County and in County Lee,  
Black and white sharecroppers join in solidarity.

The Sharecroppers' Union met at Camp Hill meeting-place:  
"We want our food allowance and a little garden-space!"

Refrain: 1 - 3 - 3 - 3

Never sing hosanna! never hallelujah!  
The landlord of the manor is only here to fool ya!

The white folks' landlord gentry have grown mighty rich.  
When a man gets wealthy he has got that greedy itch.  
They've gobbled up the acres well-nigh a hundredfold.  
And say, "Just to the landlord may the cropper's pick be sold!"

The landlord makes division leaving cropper bare,  
Black and white sharecroppers rose demanding of their share:  
"You cut us off at July until September comes,  
And then we're torn from root and roof and all we get are crumbs!"

The sharecroppers say, "Yes, for cash we'll sell our pick.  
No planter'll pool our cotton, where it grows there let it stick.  
And we demand schooling nine months out of the year  
For children of the croppers and a bus to take 'em there!"

The white lords did not like to hear those croppers talk,  
Through planters' Alabama the "nigger hunt" did stalk.  
They slew Ralph Gray, a comrade, and four more disappeared,  
Because the landed gentry that Sharecroppers' Union feared.

From the jail at Dadeville they took the Union men  
And those four brave comrades oh! were never seen again.  
It's now Cliff James they murdered 'cause they couldn't have his mules.  
He ran into Tuskegee, where the black reformist rules.

Cliff brought his wounds for healing to men of his race,  
They gave him to the planters to win their master's grace.  
The black and white sharecropper they both now know their friends,  
And they will fight the enemy until oppression ends.

In Tallapoosa County and in County Lee,  
In Chambers, Macon, Elmore and in Montgomery,  
The Sharecroppers' Union is holding to its stand  
For right of every cropper to his little patch of land!

## PAY TRIBUTE *Workers* AT BODIES OF NEGRO DEAD

Birmingham Workers  
to Answer with In-  
creased Struggle

### MASS FUNERAL FRIDAY

Protests and Flowers

## Self-Determination for the 'Black Belt'

"Owing to the peculiar situation in the Black Belt (the fact that the majority of the resident Negro population are farmers and agricultural laborers and that the capitalist economic system as well as political class rules there, is not only of a special kind, but to a great extent still has pre-capitalist and semi-colonial features), the right of self-determination of the Negroes as the main slogan of the Communist Party in the Black Belt is appropriate. . . It is clear that in most cases it is a question of the daily conflict of interest between the Negroes and the white rulers in the Black Belt on the subject of infringement of the most elementary equality rights of the Negroes by the whites. Daily events of this kind are: all Negro persecutions, all arbitrary economic acts of robbery by the white exploiters, and the whole system of so-called 'Jim-Crowism'."—From C. I. Resolution on the Negro Question.

Slogans on wreaths of flowers sent by workers organizations call on the white and Negro workers of the South to cement their growing unity and intensify the struggle against starvation and lynch terror as an answer to the bosses' murderous offensive. Tributes of flowers and messages of solidarity with the sharecroppers and exploited farmers of Tallapoosa and their Sharecroppers Union are pouring in from organizations and individuals north and south.

### Mass Funeral Friday

The bodies will continue to lie in state until Friday, when the mass funeral will take place. The increasing interest in the struggles of the croppers, the rising mass resentment against the murderous landlords-police terror presage a tremendous mass outpouring for the funeral.

Thousands of leaflets have been issued by the Communist Party and Welsh Brothers Funeral Home, with a Guard of Honor composed of white and Negro workers standing at attention night and day. Smashing through the race-hatred poison by which the landlords and police terror and calling on the workers for vigorous protests against the murder of James and Bentley and other croppers and the working-class, many white workers in the Sharecroppers Union, and for mass defense for the arrested croppers still held in jail. The leaflet places responsibility for the murder of James and Bentley directly at the doors of the Southern landlords and their reformist lackeys at the head of Tuskegee Institute. Cliff James was one of two Negro croppers betrayed into the hands of the police by the Tuskegee heads. The two militant struggles of the Negro sharecroppers and exploited farmers being developed on a gratifying scale.

Wounded croppers had sought refuge in the Tuskegee hospital, affiliated to Tuskegee Institute. The reformist leaders not only betrayed them into the hands of the landlords and their police but messages of tribute to the deads of leaflets are being distributed leaders and solidarity for the con-exposing the murderous landlord-police terror and the Judas acts of the incitement against the militant crop in turning over Cliff James and another, Dr. Dibble, head of the hospital. Negro cropper to the police at giving the police the lying information that James had confided to himlynchers with lynch incitement that "he was sorry he didn't kill any officer in the lying information that of the officers."

Cliff James had confided to Dr. Dibble of the Tuskegee hospital that "he was sorry he didn't kill any of the officers."

### Seven Still Held

At least seven croppers are still held incommunicado in jail, denied officers. The leaflets place the their civil rights to confer privately with their attorneys. Hearing or at the doors of the rich landlords and the petition by the International Labor Defense for a writ of habeas corpus by the treacherous Negro reformist in these cases has been set for leaders of Tuskegee Institute. The Jan. 5, before Judge Leon McCord, leaflets point out that both James and Bentley died not of the wounds Four others of the arrested croppers and Bentley died not of the wounds were released several days ago as received in the Reeltown Battle with result of the tremendous protest the landlord-police lynch gangs, but pouring in on Alabama officials from neglect and infection of the all parts of the country. Those still wounded, the authorities denying them held in jail are charged with being medical aid.

*Workers*  
"the ringleaders" of the Sharecroppers Union which the rich landlords and their police and courts are trying a tremendous role in this exposure and smash.

### Daily Plays Big Role

The Daily Worker is playing a and their police and courts are trying a tremendous role in this exposure and smash.

## MASS FUNERAL FRIDAY *Workers* FOR NEGRO CROPPERS MURDERED BY LANDLORDS

### Bodies of Cliff James, Milo Bentley Lie in State; Thousands, White and Negro, Pay Tribute

Many Organizations Send Flowers, Messages  
of Solidarity with Croppers' Struggles

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 1.—The mass funeral for the two murdered Negro cropper leaders, Cliff James and Milo Bentley, will be held in this city on Friday.

The bodies of the two victims of the murderous landlord-police terror in Tallapoosa County, Ala., now lie in state in the Welsh Brothers Funeral Home, with a Guard of Honor composed of white and Negro workers standing at attention night and day. Smashing through the race-hatred poison by which the landlords and police terror and calling on the workers for vigorous protests against the murder of James and Bentley and other croppers and the working-class, many white workers in the Sharecroppers Union, and for mass defense for the arrested croppers still held in jail. The leaflet places responsibility for the murder of James and Bentley directly at the doors of the Southern landlords and their reformist lackeys at the head of Tuskegee Institute. Cliff James was one of two Negro croppers betrayed into the hands of the police by the Tuskegee heads. The two militant struggles of the Negro sharecroppers and exploited farmers being developed on a gratifying scale.

Thousands of white and Negro workers are flocking daily to the funeral home to pay their last tribute to their lives. The leaflets call for a broad united front movement is being developed on a gratifying scale. Speakers are penetrating the church and mass organizations, winning

an increasing number of organiza-tions and mass organizations, winning the white and Negro masses to support the demands of the croppers' struggle. Thousands of leaflets are being distributed leaders and solidarity for the con-exposing the murderous landlord-police terror and the Judas acts of the incitement against the militant crop in turning over Cliff James and another, Dr. Dibble, head of the hospital. Negro cropper to the police at giving the police the lying information that James had confided to himlynchers with lynch incitement that "he was sorry he didn't kill any officer in the lying information that of the officers."

bloodhounds, but joined the landlord-police terror and the Judas acts of the incitement against the militant crop in turning over Cliff James and another, Dr. Dibble, head of the hospital. Negro cropper to the police at giving the police the lying information that James had confided to himlynchers with lynch incitement that "he was sorry he didn't kill any officer in the lying information that of the officers."

Cliff James had confided to Dr. Dibble of the Tuskegee hospital that "he was sorry he didn't kill any of the officers."

At least seven croppers are still held incommunicado in jail, denied officers.

The leaflets place the their civil rights to confer privately with their attorneys.

Hearing or at the doors of the rich landlords and the petition by the International Labor Defense for a writ of habeas corpus by the treacherous Negro reformist in these cases has been set for leaders of Tuskegee Institute. The Jan. 5, before Judge Leon McCord, leaflets point out that both James and Bentley died not of the wounds

Four others of the arrested croppers and Bentley died not of the wounds

were released several days ago as received in the Reeltown Battle with

result of the tremendous protest the landlord-police lynch gangs, but

pouring in on Alabama officials from neglect and infection of the

all parts of the country. Those still wounded, the authorities denying them

held in jail are charged with being medical aid.

"the ringleaders" of the Sharecroppers Union which the rich landlords and their police and courts are trying a tremendous role in this exposure and smash.

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Agriculture - 1933

labor Conditions.

# "Lynch Masters Know Their Enemies-and Their Friends!"

## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ALABAMA STRUGGLES

In his first article published in Saturday's Daily Worker, Comrade Ross described the background of the ~~man~~ battle in Tallapoosa County resulting from the attempt of a white landlord's sheriff to seize the mule and cow belonging to Cliff James, a Negro share-cropper. "The outstanding fact in this struggle," wrote Comrade Ross, "was the remarkable unity of Negro and white farmers." —EDITORS NOTE.

\* \* \*

By NAT ROSS

II

Despite all attempts of the landlords and their murder agents and the entire capitalist press including part of the Southern Negro reformist press to whip the white farmers into a lynch spirit against the Negro farmers, the scheme failed. Instead, the white toilers in the Black Belt united with the Negro farmers in helping them escape, in caring for the wounded, in protesting Sheriff Young's actions, in gathering in large crowds on the highways, in watching the action of the posse to such an extent that when Sheriff Young called off the man-hunt, he declared he was afraid some innocent citizens might get hurt. When all the details are known, it will be established that the white croppers and farmers no doubt joined and united with the Negroes against a mob of murderers.

THE white farmers in this territory had seen the union gain partial victories for the Negroes which affected them. They saw the Union was fighting for their own needs. They saw power behind the union, especially in gaining the acquittal of Hugley. They were recognizing that the race issue was a hoax to hide the class struggle. And they knew the demands of the union were the demands of all the toiling farmers, croppers and laborers, both black and white. These demands were:

1. Minimum price of 10 cents for cotton.

2. The right to sell own cotton.
3. No forced pooling of cotton.
4. No confiscation of the live-stock or attachment of farm implements.
5. No evictions, forced collections of debts.
6. Free school buses for children without discrimination against Negro students.
7. The right to organize for bread and fight against terror and war.

The second major reason why the man hunt was called off was due to the heroism of the Negro croppers. They were fighting with the determination of people who know what they are fighting for. On Tuesday afternoon just before the man hunt was called off the press reports that "leaders of the posse received information that the Negroes (who had taken part in the battle against the deputies) had sworn to resist all efforts to place them under arrest. Another gun battle was expected when these Negroes were found." Another story relates how one Negro got away into a swamp from a posse of 10 who shot at him six times. Another item reports that the Negroes were seen in every town in the county and at their homes along the road by newspapermen who followed the activities of the posse despite Sheriff Young's orders." In other words the Negro masses did not hide but were out in the open protesting and following every step of the lynch mob.

The mob feared the power of the Negro masses. And for that matter, the white toilers were right with them and the boundless energy, courage and ingenuity of the Negroes hunted in the struggle, was an inspiration to the poor masses of the countryside. That is why things became too hot for Sheriff Young and his murder crew.

### FLOODED WITH PROTESTS.

And finally the flood of protests and telegrams from every part of the country (which in many cases were printed in the press in full) was a sledge hammer blow to the Alabama ruling class and their

hired thugs. Any one who doubtsdays. Is it any wonder that many the effect of mass protest should people are thinking how is it possible to see some of the southern papers for the lynch inciting press which the misleaders are called on and any one who also happens to call the Communist Party "drill to play is grabbed at by most of doubt the importance of the Daily Worker should have been in the South or in Birmingham and imagined the knock-out effect the "Daily" of Dec. 21 had on the ruling Inter-racial committee of Alabama.

Long articles discussing ways and means of smashing the Communist Party appear daily. Attorney General Knight of Scottsboro infamy promises to prosecute the District leaders "responsible" for the "Tallapoosa riots." The Birmingham police are congratulated for keeping tabs on "the Red leaders." They quickly raided the office of the I. L. D. the day after the Reeltown battle. They break into a private house meeting and jail Alice Burke. They shout that the Birmingham leaders are responsible for telling the croppers that "the war question should be the daily agitation of all the comrades," they declare that the Birmingham leaders are teaching the Negro masses the principles of Sovietism, of the workers owning the mills and land with the capitalists overthrown, and the elimination of racial and social lines."

Having failed to "create a race riot" the press in its editorials begins to deplore the episode. A typical editorial says the following: "The deplorable affair in Tallapoosa County is an example of what comes of the activities of Communist agitators who prey upon ignorant Negroes in these times of unrest, and stirring up bitterness among them." Not a word is said about the deplorable conditions under which both Negro and white farmers live in the Alabama Black Belt. Not a word is said about the issue involved, namely the struggle for the RIGHT TO LIVE.

The only trouble it seems is that the Communists are making the "good Negro" as "bad Negroes" that the Negroes "naturally" accept the customary barbarism of the South peacefully but that the Reds simply stir up these ignorant Negroes to protest their conditions. Such is the line of many of the Southern papers who echo the interests of the rich.

WHILE the lynch masters know their enemies they also know their friends. The landlords have come to recognize the ASSISTANT HANGMEN of the Negro masses are the Negro reformist leaders. Quotations from editorials from the Post and Age-Herald declare: "That the dreadful affair should have taken place in a section

ornamented by so useful and hopeful and enterprise as Tuskegee Institute serves only to deepen one's sense of defeat." (Post) "Happening in the shadow of Tuskegee Institute where Booker T. Washington preached his sermon of racial co-operation and where Robert R. Moton has carried the work on since, these incidents are doubly unfortunate." (Age-Herald) It is clear that the capitalists and landlords see the Negro masses slipping away from the control of their shrewdest betrayers, the Negro reformists, and turning to Communism. How well they regret

it. The role of assistant hangman in the Alabama croppers struggle which the misleaders are called on to play is grabbed at by most of the Southern Negro newspapers, who are dominated by the ideology of the churches, big lodges and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

### SEEK TO SMASH PARTY

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ON the whole the District leadership of the Party reacted quickly and correctly to the first news of the struggle. Our fundamental line was correct—that it was a planned murderous attack by landlords' armed deputies on Negro

poor farmers defending themselves and their means of livelihood which the landlords could not turn into a 'race riot' because of the tremendous support given the heroic Negroes by the toiling whites. We issued publicity leaflets and resolutions quickly, our leadership worked tirelessly and the entire District membership was swept into motion, organizers went into the field, legal defense was put into action, a committee

left to see the Governor etc. But aside from this, many bad mistakes

were made. The first few days, did not understand that the Alabama croppers case must be resolved saying that the condition of the white farmers was absolutely untrue. In one resolution the Negroes gave place to the basis of blurring over the Negro question.

TO BE CONTINUED

Even the capitalist press advanced the Scottsboro case as a featured place to the Scottsboro case. This comrade, a

cropper, growing primarily the Leninist approach to the national question linked up, that they both stand on the side of the national common ground, against the whole Negro question. One Negro rights and against the landlords' armed deputies on Negro

# Agriculture - 1933

## Harbor Conditions

# "Lynch Masters Know Their Enemies--and Their Friends!"

# THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ALABAMA STRUGGLES

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By NAT ROSS

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THE white farmers in this territory had seen the union gain partial victories for the Negroes which affected them. They saw the Union was fighting for their own needs. They saw power behind the union, especially in gaining the acquittal of Hugley. They were recognizing that the race issue was a hoax to hide the class struggle. And they knew the demands of the union were the demands of all the toiling farmers, croppers and laborers, both black and white. These demands were:

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Alabama

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S-SEEK TO  
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-1- see some of the southern papers for the lynch inciting press  
- and any one who also happens to call the Communist Party "drill  
- doubt the importance of the Daily sergeants of hatred" and "harpies  
Worker should have been in the that spring up in troubled times"?  
South or in Birmingham and But lies do not stop the lynchers  
- imagined the knock-out effect the from frothing at the mouth. The  
- "Daily" of Dec. 21 had on the rul- Inter-racial committee of Alabama-  
- on ing class and the inspiration and Tennessee consisting of white bos-  
- or power it gave to the masses. This ses and Negro reformist leaders  
- whole flood of telegrams and the says among other things: "Certain  
- hy staggered the ruling class and work seeking to sow discord be-  
- as sharply brought out the deepening tween black and white. Behind the  
- ro crisis in Alabama. It was not en- malevolent activity there is able  
- ho Gov. Miller called another special wide organization. Communism in  
- or. session of the state legislature to its hope of world revolution has  
- re convened on Jan. 21 and that day chosen the southern Negro as the  
- ne Representative Lovelace of Talla- American group most likely to  
- poosa county declared that he will respond to their revolutionary ap-  
- ne have a bill passed in the legisla- peal".

This is very important for landlord Lovelace because he himself admits that "all the Negro tenants on my farm are on the mailing list of some Communist organization in Birmingham". The fact that one third of the schools throughout the state involving 125,000 children are closed down and that tax strikes are spreading, forced the millionaire Will Leedy to say that these actions "smack of Communism and would serve to further the ends of a group of Communists of Birmingham who are bent on bringing chaos to the state."

Having failed to "create a race riot" the press in its editorials begins to deplore the episode. A typical editorial says the following: "The deplorable affair in Tallapoosa County is an example of what comes of the activities of Communist agitators who prey upon ignorant Negroes in these times of unrest, and stirring up bitterness among them." Not a word is said about the deplorable conditions under which both Negro and white farmers live in the Alabama Black Belt. Not a word is said about the issue involved, namely the struggle for the **RIGHT TO LIVE**. The only trouble it seems is that the Communists are mak-

In these first few days of the struggle the united front was created between the finance capitalists of Birmingham headed by the Tennessee Company (U. S. Steel), the big landlords of southern and central Alabama the Negro reformist leaders and other

agents of the lynch masters. The main line was a savage attack on the Communist Party. First the press shouted in its headlines that the struggle was a race riot, race war, inter-racial clash etc. in an attempt to have more blood spilled. The wish was father to the thought. For this purpose lying stories were invented the first two WHILE the lynch masters know their enemies they also know their friends. The landlords have come to recognize the ASSISTANT HANGMEN of the Negro masses are the Negro reformist leaders. Quotations from editorials from the Post and Age-Herald declare: "That the dreadful affair should have taken place in a section

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It is clearly necessary to prepare for the sharp terror that is coming

**O**N the whole the District leadership of the Party reacted quickly

cropped up the first few days, did not understand that the **boro case in all their agitation.**" Another comrade put forward a growing primarily out of a failure struggle of the Alabama croppers resolution saying that the condition of the white farmers were to understand the Leninist approach to the national question, linked up, that they both stand on a blurring over of the national common ground, the struggle for just as bad as the Negro farmers aspects of he Negro question. One Negro rights and against the whole which of course is absolutely untrue. In one resolution the capitalist press addressed to the Scottsboro case aside Even the capitalist press admitted that the croppers gave placed on the basis of blurring by taking up the fight for the milled This comrade, a featured place to the Scotts over the Negro question.

# Leadership in the Struggle of Alabama Sharecroppers

Today's Worker 1-3-33

In the previous two articles, Comrade Ross described the background of the recent battle in Tallapoosa County, Ala., resulting from the attempt of the white landlords' sheriff to seize the mule and cow belonging to Cliff James, a Negro Sharecropper. In yesterday's article, the writer dealt with the manner in which the District leadership of the Party reacted to the situation. Now continue:

By NAT ROSS

### III.

Another serious mistake made by the District was that they did not prepare for the struggle which wasthe Black Belt, the drawing in of all direct contact because the mailconcerntize on the basis of this new was held up in the first days of historical struggle, the meaning of bloody struggle. We also failed to the Communist slogan, "Absolute prepare the croppers to carry on Equal Rights for Negroes and Self a mass protest campaign and to Determination for the Black Belt." be able to work under the most savage terror. Another of our District comrades, on reading a show how intimately the struggle batch of letters from the croppers for immediate needs has already and farmers, did not try to sense been linked up with the struggle for their mood for struggle but thought the land, for the "principles of they were not politically "developed" because their language was Sovietism," for the struggle against not on a highly Marxian plane war. The unity between the im- And finally, there was resistance intermediate burning needs of the toil- from one of our comrades the Negro farmers and their basic first day or so when we said that even from lying press reports it was obvious that the most historic battle of Reeltown. The Lenin achievement was the unity of the Memorial campaign must be used black and white toiling farmers especially for political clarity.

Here it might be mentioned that It is necessary to go into detail on the Leninist principle of the hegemony of the proletariat over all strata of the toiling population. In this respect the black and white proletariat of Birmingham played a decisive role under the guidance of the Communist Party. From I.L.D. come out using every avail- that in Elmore county adjoining of the Communist Party. From I.L.D. come out using every avail-

THE Reeltown battle shows the actual guidance of the toilers in well. Already the sheriffs of the the Black Belt in their fight for three counties in the Black Belt their immediate agrarian and national needs and for the right of plans for extensive under-cover used as an historical laboratory where the masses can learn in liberation. The ruling class retribution of propaganda but the simple fashion the Communist recognized this, which resulted in the apprehension of those who attempted a frenzied attack on the Party leadership. In this respect mass meetings position on the Negro question, the struggle for self-determination etc. It must be used to expose all the silent Sheriff Young curiously Southern cities will be a big step the fascists and social fascists and blurted out, "I'm already being forward. etc. It must be used to expose all the silent Sheriff Young curiously Southern cities will be a big step the fascists and social fascists and blurted out, "I'm already being forward.

and leaders who declare that the Communist method leads to "race war" in the Black Belt. Well, Mr. Norman Thomas, your friends, the landlords, sheriffs and the entire lynch press tried their best to please you but the masses instinctively and under conscious guidance took the Communist way of struggle, the way of united struggle of Negro and white toiling farmers against the landlords and the Party reacted to the situation. Now continue:

\* \* \*

### BIG ORGANIZATIONAL TASKS

There are immediate big organizational tasks. It is imperative now to redouble our efforts in the Reeltown struggle, our first building the Share Croppers Union. We must build the union on a stronger basis in the scene of struggle. White farmers must be drawn into the Union locals (meeting separately in cases) and where this is not possible, white farmers should

bring to the Party throughout the South in particular. of the Communist Party. Particularly in the South, only the conscious, relentless, bold leadership of the Party can smash through the outbursts of savage terror. At this time, when tens of thousands of people are in motion as a result of hundreds of these elements in the Black Belt, in the large Southern cities, into the Party. A strong Party, composed of the most militant section of Negro and white toilers, is the only guarantee that the croppers' struggles will be raised to higher levels, that the Black Belt will witness sharper battles, which will turn the struggle for immediate needs into the struggle for power of the Negro majority. In this way the Negro people will force greater concessions. The union must not be confined to the five or six counties in Alabama but must spread throughout the Black Belt. We must find ways and means (and they can be found) to organize the toiling farmers, especially since the Reeltown struggle has found the first page of most southern papers.

It is of first importance to build the I. L. D. on a bigger scale. This must be done in connection with the defense of the Alabama croppers. The I. L. D., supported by the masses, must force absolute release of all croppers, punishment of the sheriffs, demand an investigation into the murders of unknown croppers, demand that the county and state government give relief to the families of dead and wounded croppers. It is necessary at a cost not to exceed five or six cents, to link up this defense struggle with the fight for the Scottsboro for livestock be produced on the farm, boys and make it a permanently increasing struggle against the cows, hogs and poultry be kept for whole system of lynching and Negro oppression. Especially must the cash income.

In each of the counties the farmers

phasizing the fact that "low-cost production was essential to net profit." Over 2,000 farmers in six South Alabama counties this week resolved to "live at home" during 1933 and to grow the last year.

Agents taking the leading role in the meetings of the week include F. C. Emmett Sizemore, extension service district agent, and F. W. Burns, live-stock specialist, Auburn, visited county-wide meetings in Barbour, Henry, Dale, Coffee, Covington and Crenshaw Coun-

ty and state government give cotton at the very lowest cost possible. Agents taking the leading role in the meetings of the week include F. C. Emmett Sizemore, extension service district agent, and F. W. Burns, live-stock specialist, Auburn, visited county-wide meetings in Barbour, Henry, Dale, Coffee, Covington and Crenshaw Coun-

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Alabama

Agriculture-1933

## Labor Conditions.

# White Syracuse Graduate Tells Tense Race Condition on Farms Fifteen Miles From Tuskegee

Hunger Common. Ku Klux Oppose Share Croppers' Union. All Autoists Stopped on Roads and Threatened Virtual Curfew Law in Effect. School Teacher Whipped with Ropes. Cabins Shut Up. Many Refugees Still Live in Woods.

(The following first-hand account of conditions of terror in Tallapoosa county, where three weeks ago a reign of murder and brutality was inaugurated by the white landlords and their sheriffs' gangs, is written by a white Northerner, graduate of Syracuse University, who traveled through the section last week to find out for himself what was going on.)

TUSKEGEE, Ala. (Special)—Mass murder of defenseless people is brewing in sections of Tallapoosa and Macon Counties, not 15 miles from Tuskegee. White bullies are opping people on the roads and threatening to kill all Negroes. Ku Klux Klan leaflets, bearing address of Box 651, Birmingham, have been circulated in the section. These handbills threaten Negroes interested in their constitutional right of social equality or in the Communist party.

Gangs riding in high powered cars have prowled over wide areas of the counties breaking into homes, stealing guns and ammunition and beating up women and children. A careful survey shows that hundreds if not thousands of dollars worth of weapons and ammunition have been confiscated by the profilers. Eye witnesses tell of seeing guns stolen from farmers and given to the white thugs. No Negro is allowed to buy ammunition now. During the series of raids conducted by the white sheriffs' gangs, over 50 houses, it is estimated, were pil-laged. Trunks were broken open, guided through woods and fields ened.

Personal threats have been sent to many leading farmers. Some of these men have told the gangs that they will die fighting. Others asked the writer what to do under the circumstances. They showed that they were in mortal terror.

### Hunger is Common

Hunger is common in the area. Starvation is just around the corner in many of the tiny huts that shelter from 12 to 15 people. Afraid times a day and telling them to sleep in their own homes, many keep quiet and not talk to anyone. Families are going to neighbor's houses each evening. Broken windows, shot out sash, torn up floors and roofs riddled with bullets can be seen in many shacks. Hunted like rabbits, many men of a farmer was whinned with

ropes by a mob of whites. Sylvia Warren, a woman nearly 100 and blind, was severely beaten and cut with pistols in the hands of white men. Shells and bullets that were shot at women and little children can be obtained at almost any cabin in the Liberty Hill section. Other men have sent defiant messages to thugs who have threatened them with death. These farmers say that they may be killed but they will at least die fighting.

### Curfew Law

A virtual curfew law is in effect. Many farmers state that they do not dare to go away from home. Hundreds have been warned to stay away from the Liberty Hall area. Whites stop strangers of either race on the roads and inquire their business. In spite of this, men connected with the International Labor Defense have operated efficiently in the section. The I.L.D. is defending the accused farmers and has already forced the release of many of them.

Every effort is being made by the whites to break up the Share Croppers' Union in the trouble zone. The organization is young in that immediate locality. No trouble has been experienced near Camp Hill, where deputies murdered Ralph Grey, a leader of the Share Croppers' Union, summer before last. Rumors that a large force of armed and well disciplined Camp

Hill men were about to start to the defense of the Liberty Hill men in the sections. One man who shot withdrew are heard on every side. Judson Simpson has been heard by reliable witnesses to boast of his exploit. No masks or disguises were used by the gangsters who appeared and they still seem confident that they will not be arrested. Threats against the life of a white man of prominent position residing in Montgomery who investigated the murders and took pictures in the section have been made. Several other whites have been threatened. The writer was threatened with violence by his white neighbors.

### 40 Cents a Day

Wages in the section are as low as 40 and 50 cents per day. Working hours are from sun to sun. In cases where board is furnished the workers it often consists of cold scraps left from the white tables.

Some farmers have been told they would have to move from their land if their wives did not wash clothes for the white landlords. Many are in the tiny huts that now visiting their tenants several times a day and telling them to not the center of the Black Belt in Alabama. We were enroute to Dadeville, Opelika and Tuskegee to earn a message of cheer and encouragement to our Negro com-

rades, those brave share-croppers who so courageously defended themselves against the vicious attack of the deputies and lynchers of Tallapoosa County.

Here and there we passed a cabin standing in a field of dried cotton stalks, a thin curl of smoke from the chimney telling us it was occupied. Very few have windows with glass panes, simply a square opening with a wooden shutter. Old, rotten, unpainted, many of them entirely deserted, their shutters closed, a picture of desolation.

At the new white marble court-house in Wetumka we stopped to investigate rumors that another Negro had been captured and was perhaps being tortured by the police in their efforts to learn more about the Share-Croppers Union. This organization of white and Negro tenant farmers and share-croppers had been formed for the protection of their mutual interests and to combat the lying, cheating system in operation for so many years by the big land-owners and bankers.

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We learned at Wetumka that the only Negro arrested had been sent to Dadeville, so we continued our journey over an almost impassable road and reached Dadeville at noon. Dadeville is a small town built in the form of a square; the court-house in the center. Shabby wooden buildings and a few two-story bricks lined the four streets of the town.

Utter quiet pervaded the place; the few who stood in doorways or leaned against posts stared at us curiously. We found Sheriff Young, a tall heavily-built man of middle-age in the Court House. He was gruff, surly and openly hostile when he learned we had come to see the Negro share-croppers. He refused to allow us to see them until he consulted the solicitor and then tried to discourage and frighten us by saying that if we insisted on visiting the prisoners we would be in great danger of not getting out of the county alive!

Our answer was, "we are here to see them!"

## In Alabama's Black Belt

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One was wounded among these at Dadeville. Another had been badly beaten about the head. When told that the International Labor Defense had come to their defense a new look of hope and cheer appeared in their faces. Some greeted us with smiles. They were very brave, showing no fear while in the hands of these lynchers and murderers of their comrades, Clifford James, Milo Bentley and James McMullin.

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### WE REACH TUSKEGEE

After many weary miles over rough roads, it was night when we reached Tuskegee. A larger town than Dadeville, there was more activity about the streets. Told that we would probably find Sheriff Riley in the poolroom, we finally located him. When shown the letter from Sheriff Young, he said, "I don't believe Young wrote it!" Hatred and anger showed plainly in his face as he flatly refused to allow us to visit the men. At that moment Clifford James and Milo Bentley were lying on the floors of their cells not a block away, dying of their infected wounds.

When we protested that he was denying them their constitutional right to legal defense, his reply was, "I don't care a dam about that!" He refused to say how many were imprisoned or what condition they were in.

OUR worst fears for the safety of the share-croppers were realized, when James and Bentley were driven forty miles the next day to the jail in Montgomery, where they died on arrival. The body of James bore mute evidence of his having been beaten and tortured before

The Negro and white share-croppers and poor farmers of Alabama are bitter over this action and their reply to it will be a stronger and more united front in the Share-Croppers Union for the struggle against their common enemies and oppressors, the big land-owners, bankers and Negro reformists.

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Agriculture - 1933

Alabama

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Every effort is being made by the whites to break up the Share Croppers' Union in the trouble zone. Landlords have told them they must vacate their homes. Most of these people have nowhere to move. Their landlords have also attempted to prevent landlords in the section near here from allowing the homeless farmers to move onto unoccupied lands.

### No Marks or Disguises

Names of many of the men in defense of the Liberty Hill men the gangs are known by farmers in the sections. One man who shot withdrew are heard on every side. Judson Simpson has been heard by reliable witnesses to boast of his exploit. No masks or disguises were used by the gangsters who appear if not thousands of dollars worth of weapons and ammunition have been confiscated by the profilers. Threats against the life of a white man of prominent position from farmers and given to the residing in Montgomery who investigated the murders and took pictures in the section have been made. Several other whites have been threatened. The writer was threatened with violence by his white neighbors.

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## NIGHT RAID ON

# ALA. NEGROES

2-9-33

Landlords Start a New  
Terror Drive

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 7.

Scores of Negroes have been driven from their homes in a new murderous terror launched by Tallapoosa County landlords against the Negro croppers and exploited farmers in a new attempt to smash the Share Croppers Union, which is leading the struggle against starvation and expropriation of their live stock and crops.

### Midnight Raids.

Systematic midnight raids and shooting up of Negro cabins are being carried out by lynch gangs organized by the landlords from among the backward sections of the white farmers and the deputies who took part in the armed attack on Dec. 19, when Negro croppers heroically defended themselves in the historic Battle of Reeltown. The sheriff who led that infamous attack are now standing by, refusing to interfere with the organized landlord terror.

Many Negro cabins have already clude the reports on other forms been burned to the ground and their occupants driven away at the point local hunger marches, political of guns and ordered not to return. demonstrations and the like. Hundreds of women and children are forced to sleep out in the woods at night, for fear of being ambushed idea of the character and quality in their homes by the night riders. Many Negroes are reported missing strikes and struggles. We may illustrate from the history of 1932, taking just five typical examples that show the indispensability of the Daily in the major campaigns

and struggles of the year. The reporting of these events was made possible in part by the loyalty and competence of the local workers' correspondents.

### KENTUCKY STRIKE.

A front page streamer in the Daily announced the strike in Harlan and Bell counties, Kentucky, Jan. 1, 1932. For two months thereafter the strike was featured. Every angle was covered—conditions of miners and their families, relation of the mine operators to the local officials, the arrests, jailings, trials, frame-ups and general terror and killings by operators' agents. Especially did the Daily concentrate its reporting on the big job of raising and delivering relief.

The Daily labored under the most extreme difficulties in getting its reports through. Vern Smith, its correspondent, and eight others were arrested, January 4, charged with "criminal syndicalism", and lodged in the county jail at Pine-

delegation to the State Legislature on Feb. 23, to demand relief for the impoverished Negro and white farmers. Workers and their organizations and all sympathizers throughout the country are urged to rush protests against the terror and for the release of the five Reeltown Croppers still jailed to Governor B. M. Miller, Montgomery, Ala.

## Reporting the Struggles of ~~Daily Worker~~ Labor Thruout the U.S.

By LABOR RESEARCH ASS'N.

HERE is some evidence showing the importance of the Daily Worker in the everyday strikes and struggles of the working class. We have examined the news columns of the national and city editions of the Daily for only two months, October and November, 1932. We found, during this brief period, reports on a total of 68 strikes. Of these, five were larger strikes such as those of the Illinois miners. The other 63 were smaller local strikes, more than half of them in the New York district, such as the strikes of clothing, shoe, food, marine, furniture, metal and building workers.

These figures do not, of course, include the reports on other forms of struggle involved in evictions, occupants driven away at the point of guns and ordered not to return. demonstrations and the like. But these total figures on strike forced to sleep out in the woods at night, for fear of being ambushed idea of the character and quality in their homes by the night riders. Many Negroes are reported missing strikes and struggles. We may illustrate from the history of 1932, taking just five typical examples that show the indispensability of the Daily in the major campaigns

and struggles of the year. The reporting of these events was made possible in part by the loyalty and competence of the local workers' correspondents.

ville. Yet the Daily managed to give uninterrupted reports of events even when, as happened on Jan. 24, the miner who was smuggling out the dispatches had to go to a city 50 miles away because three gun thugs were waiting to "get him" at the Pineville telegraph office from which reports were usually sent.

THE DAILY'S effectiveness was seen in the \$50,000 suit entered against it on January 28, by Floyd Broughton, chief deputy sheriff of Bell County. The summons was handed Vern Smith through prison bars! At the same time, the "impartial" Associated Press correspondent in that section was Herndon Evans, former mine operator, who was one of the mob which beat up the writer, Waldo Frank, and Allen Taub, attorney of the International Labor Defense.

The Labor Research Association has prepared an exhaustive analysis of the reporting done in the strike, which exposes the utterly prejudiced and distorted accounts appearing in the "reputable" N. Y. Times and N. Y. Herald-Tribune. The need for the Daily was never more clearly illustrated than during this strike.

The Daily Worker was the only daily paper in the United States which consistently supported the efforts of the bonus marchers. Eyewitness accounts of the attack upon the veterans on July 28, appeared in the Daily on August 1 and 2. The first was written by a veteran himself, the second by Nathaniel Honig, special Daily correspondent.

### THE SOUTH

### RIVER STRIKE.

On August 22, 1932, more than 1,700 needle trades workers at South River, N. J., struck against wage-cuts. The Daily devoted more space than any other paper to this strike. The murder of 9-year old Walter Rojek, the wounding of another youngster, 13 years old, and 10 others on September 19, were reported in the Daily the following day. Reports on the strike continued until it ended on September 27.

### THE NATIONAL HUNGER MARCH.

The Daily gave magnificent support to the national hunger march to Washington. As early as October 24, it printed a map showing the different routes to be taken by the eight columns of the march. From then on came day-to-day reports of the preparations and progress of the march and, as on November 4 and 5, maps of the routes individual columns were to take. The capitalist press, on the other hand, not only distorted and misrepresented the marchers and their purposes, but reported only the "sensations" such as "clashes with the police", and the propaganda of the government and its officials who were attempting to prevent the march. From November 15, the day the Daily reported the start of column No. 1, it gave daily and adequate factual descriptions of the whole movement.

Still more important, the Daily smashed the lies and libels of the capitalist press. Bill Dunne's article, December 8, effectively exposed the vicious fabrication by the New York Sunday News of an alleged speech by Herbert Benjamin, march leader.

### ATTACK ON SHARE-CROPPERS.

The few reports in the capitalist press about the attack on Negro share-croppers in Tallapoosa County, Ala., December 19, have been brief and fragmentary. They have obscured the issues, the extent of the struggle, the conditions against which the croppers were struggling, the unity of black and white farmers and the savage terror they faced.

In the Daily, on the other hand, news of this event occupied the most prominent position on the front page from December 21 to January 2. Besides, there were editorials and many articles, including a special series by Nat Ross. To this day the events surrounding the struggle would be practically unknown if workers had to depend on the capitalist press, or the socialist and so-called "labor press", for information about this important struggle.

These events, and countless others of the same kind, show clearly the service the Daily performs in the day-to-day struggles of the workers.

The Daily Worker will not be able to continue to perform this service unless workers everywhere answer its call for the funds that will enable it to live. Save the Daily Worker.—Editor.

Alabama

Agriculture-1933

Labor Conditions.

Chattanooga, Tenn.  
NEWS

MAY 1 1933

Destructive I. L. D.

CONVICTION of the Negroes in Garfield Hays, leading liberal attorney of the Share Croppers' Union rioters of America, were also added to the defense ranks.

should serve as further evidence. But the International Labor Defense had not been asleep during the irritating influence of New York, had become a "millstone" about the necks of their clients, and Workers with Russian names? had made it impossible to secure all, but an ultra-radical propaganda do not know, their agents managed offense.

to convince the defendants that

For a score of years, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has carried on an intelligent campaign to advance the educational, social and economic condition of the Negroes. Many of the best men of the South have railed her over the country, as they taken part in its activities, their opening act in their travesty. natives being entirely unselfish and Mr. Darrow and Mr. Hays, real directed solely to the thought of aiding the Negro in improving his status.

We can but sympathize with these men as they look now upon the destruction of their work by the I. L. D.

Let us examine the Scottsboro case again and see if the News' claim is true that the I. L. D. has sought to have the eight Negro boys executed for allegedly attacking two white girls, in order to manufacture propaganda for their own selfish purposes.

When the boys were first brought to trial, two Southern attorneys were retained for them by the N. A. C. P. It is true that the mob they had made mere pawns in a spirit was already aflame, and it is deeper game. They were fighting "In neither case was a ComNegroes in Dadeville recently is the also true that this first trial was to establish Communism in the communist within gunshot. As one of not calculated to secure justice for the South, and not to free their clients the share-croppers put it, with the Negros. But their conviction was virtually assured when the pre-dow had to retire from the case de meetin's and de peerades, demright to a fair trial when the court siding judge, in the midst of the They could not afford to fight under white boys (the organizers) was a permitted prosecution witnesses to trial, received what amounted to a threat of death unless the Negroes with an organization Mr. Darrow look in de coffins, I couldn't see we're "immediately and unconditionally" released.

The Association filed notice of appeal. It also secured the services of Mr. Roderick Beddow, of Bir-fair. The I. L. D. is a Communist organization, whose theories of so- to convince any one that the I. L. D. the preliminary hearing.

at the same time a man imbued with a warm sympathy for the colored people. Mr. Stephen Roddy, of Chattanooga, and a Scottsboro lawyer of experience were the local counsel. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Clarence Darrow and Mr. Arthur

Case, can there be any question but Ala., rightly refused to go on with what they would have selected the case, declaring that the I. L. D. Southern attorneys of ability, who attorneys, with their inflammatoty injection of bitterness, without ap-cism uttered in speeches in Nev

dealing to race hatreds, and with York, had become a "millstone" about the necks of their clients, and Workers with Russian names? But that is not all the story. In fair trial, July, 1931, while the case was on appeal to the Alabama Supreme Court, Communist organizers went to Camp Hill, Ala., and formed a share croppers' union of Negroes. Their literature urged Negroes to demand what you want, and, if you don't get it, take it." After owing their seeds of discord, the organizers left.

Then, according to a communication in the New York Herald Tribune from Welbour Kelley, "shortly hereafter—and no inference is ended—the sheriff of the county was advised in a mysterious telephone message that the Negroes were plotting an uprising. Officials investigated, and shots were fired in both sides. A Negro was killed and two officers were wounded."

Mr. Kelley further relates that, in December, 1932, one hundred armed Negroes gathered at Reelton, Ala., to prevent legal attachment of two mules owned by a white man. They were beginning to the pitched battle which followed. Three major grounds for reversal of the convictions of the five Negro Tallyapoosa sharecroppers are put forth by the International Labor Defense in the appeal being made to the Alabama Supreme Court.

The mules were seized by a white man. The croppers, now in jail, have been sentenced to terms up to 12 years for defending themselves from attack by deputy sheriffs who killed three members of the Sharecroppers Union and injured several others.

The systematic exclusion of Negroes from the jury which tried the Negroes in Dadeville recently is the cardinal issue raised by the I.L.D. in demanding a new trial. The appeal also charges that the sharecroppers were deprived of their right to a fair trial when the court permitted prosecution witnesses to remain at the sessions so they could hear each others' testimony as given, while it excluded defense witnesses except when called upon to testify.

This is the result of the "directive action" which the organizers have been urging the Negroes to take. Another point made is that witnesses against the sharecroppers betrayed the whole frame-up when they materially changed their stories at the trial from those they told at the preliminary hearing.

out the country are taking part in the mass protests against the sharecroppers' conviction. Telegrams demanding their release continue to pour in upon Governor B. M. Miller at Montgomery, Ala.

FARM TENANCY IN ALABAMA  
The fact that more than half of the farmers of this state do not own their land is a matter that demands serious consideration at the hands of those who are making a study of government and economic questions. Why is tenancy on farms for sale and practically no buyers? Why is it we hear people say it's cheaper to rent than to own a home? There is a reason for this condition. We ought to find out what this reason is, and if possible remedy the conditions. It goes without saying that to develop the highest class of citizenship we must have more home owners than tenants. Is it our taxing system that is causing our people to lose interest in home ownership? If it is we ought to revise our system. The number of our taxpayers are growing less as the number of tenants increases. If this keeps up where will we land? Eventually a few people will own the land and pay the taxes from the meager returns they get from rents, and the poor renter, half-clothed and half-fed, will continue to move from farm to farm, hoping to better his condition, until he reaches the end of his journey and is buried in a pauper's grave. This is a very unhealthy condition. We had as well face it and set about in some way to remedy it before it is too late.—Oneonta Southern Democrat.

## TALLAPOOSA CASE BEING APPEALED

Nearly worker  
Negro Exclusion from  
Jury Is Chief Issue

MONTGOMERY, Ala., May 31.—

Three major grounds for reversal of the convictions of the five Negro Tallyapoosa sharecroppers are put forth by the International Labor Defense in the appeal being made to the Alabama Supreme Court.

Mr. Kelley further relates that, in December, 1932, one hundred armed Negroes gathered at Reelton, Ala., to prevent legal attachment of two mules owned by a white man. They were beginning to the pitched battle which followed. Three major grounds for reversal of the convictions of the five Negro Tallyapoosa sharecroppers are put forth by the International Labor Defense in the appeal being made to the Alabama Supreme Court.

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# Landlords' Lynch Posses Hunt Negro Cotton Strike Leaders

LAFAYETTE, Ala., Nov. 4.—Lynch parties under the leadership of deputy sheriffs were scouring Chambers County today, looking for nine Negro members of the cotton-pickers union, which is leading a strike against intolerable wages and working conditions. Seven others already have been arrested, and warrants have been prepared against the nine in preparation for a reign of murder and lynching.

The authorities are supporting an announcement made by Frank Wood, plantation-owner, that he is willing and ready to kill every member of the union, or any other Negro who happens to get in his way.

Every Negro cabin is being raided, the families of the cotton-pickers terrorized, and all literature and anything else the deputies think they can use, including all arms and ammunition, confiscated.

The excuse for this reign of terror is the beating by an unidentified group of farmers, of Paul Powell, a

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The excuse for this reign of terror is the beating by an unidentified group of farmers, of Paul Powell, a

Negro spy, who was sent into the union by Wood. Powell went to work picking cotton in Wood's fields, to break a strike called when Woods chased two Negro workers off his farm, owing them eighteen months' pay.

Those arrested are James Kimball, Tut Carl, John Willis, Perry Hill, George Sims, Jim Spense, and John Taylor.

Word coming in from the field indicates preparation for a slaughter comparable to that in Reeltown, Talapoosa County, last December, when at least four Negro croppers were murdered, and many arrested.

The International Labor Defense has called on all organizations of toilers, in all parts of the country, and especially to farmers' organizations, to send protests against this reign of terror, demanding withdrawal of the posses and release of the arrested pickers, to Sheriff Bob Slay, Lafayette, Ala.

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# Jail Negro Delegates to Chicago Farm Meet; Strike Blocks Roads

Farmers Overcome All Difficulties on Way to Chicago Meet

CHICAGO, Ill., Nov. 13.—In spite of the jailing of eight Negro farmers in Chambers County, Alabama, and ruined farmers from the leading and farm organizations in the country, a reign of terror instituted by sheriff and landlords against members of the Sharecroppers Union who have joined the workers of Chicago are refused to pick cotton for less than gladly opening their homes to the 50 cents a hundred pounds, reports delegates. Already places for 150 from Alabama indicate that a good delegation have been arranged and sized delegation from the southern many blanks have been turned over states will attend the Farmers 2nd to workers and workers' organization National Conference to be held here Nov. 15-18, it was reported from Alabama today.

Increased unrest in the farming areas arising from mass dissatisfaction with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration which has failed to help the ruined farmers, especially those producing hogs, cattle, and milk, is causing broad numbers of farmers to turn to the Farmers 2nd National Conference which will be held in this city Nov. 15-18.

Sharecroppers Union with 5,000 members is sending about 12 members to the Conference to tell farmers from other parts of the country about the miserable conditions of southern Negro share croppers. Farmers from Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and Tennessee will also attend the Conference as well as a large delegation of farmers and farm workers from Arkansas.

At Broad Camp, Arkansas, reports the state secretary of the Farmers Protective Association, "we had a meeting of 33 and 32 joined the F. P. A. and elected a delegate and made up \$5 and pledged more to send their delegate to Chicago." Altogether about six counties of Arkansas will be represented. A car of delegates will also set out from Texas. Utter destitution in the South makes it impossible for all delegates elected to attend the Conference, but those who will attend represent broad sections of impoverished farmers.

## Mayor Spurns Committee

CHICAGO, Ill., Nov. 13.—Mayor Edward E. Kelly refused to see members of the Arrangements Committee of the Farmers 2nd National Conference here, who had come to request that the city provide cots for the nearly 1,000 farmers and their families who would be in Chicago Nov.

to strike us down. The Daily Worker reaches out a hand to us like a brother.

I am a member of the Share Croppers Union, and there are thousands of other people here who have also become members. We know the Daily Worker is a fighter for our side. It is not easy for us to get the Daily Worker, but we sneak it in our cabins. One copy goes from one man to his neighbor. We hide it, anywhere we think safe.

It is hard to pay for it. We crop-pers are always in "debt," because the landlords cheat us on our ac-counts. We live in awful old cabins, sometimes 14 people in one or two rooms, and all we got to eat is bread and greens and fatback. Sometimes not even that. We have no winter clothes, and lots of our children have no shoes to go to school.

So you see what the Daily Worker means to us. It is a good comrade in our fight for life. It is our best fighter against the lynchers.

We read about the big need of the Daily Worker, and we are real sorry about this and only wish we could have more to help. I hope you comrades up there will understand that we could send more if we only could. And please do not let our Daily Worker stop at all.

Yours comradely,

AL.

Member of the Executive Committee of the Share Croppers Union.

## Negro Farmers Hail The "Daily," Leader In Farm Struggles

By a Worker Correspondent

They murder us Negroes every day down in Alabama. We share-crop-pers in this place, have to live in fear of our lives all the time. Shoot-ing down a "nigga" is sport for the white bosses here.

Now they are getting harder on us. They made us blow up our cotton, and we have no place to live. We have organized ourselves into a strong Share Croppers Union. The landlords trying to smash our union, send deputies and armed mobs to turn our cabins inside out, even tearing up our mattresses. They slap us in jail, and shoot us down in the fields and on the highways.

When you are in such a fight for life or death, you learn who are your real friends. We are learning about friends and enemies in the newspapers, too.

We see now the big papers lie about our struggles. But the Daily Worker tells the truth. I know this because the Daily Worker told the truth about the Camp Hill battle. The Daily Worker told the truth about the fight in Reeltown last December, when croppers were shot down for defending their rights to live on their land.

The big papers lie about us then. They don't only lie. They try to get us lynched. But the Daily Worker has called to us in a loud voice, to stand up like men, to demand equal treatment, and fight for the right to live. The big papers do their best to fool us with sweet-talk or

Agriculture - 1933

Labor Conditions.

## TALLAPOOSA SHERIFF THREATENS TO HAVE DEFENSE LAWYER FLOGGED

Negro Sharecroppers Cases Set for April 25;  
No Negroes Ever Served on Jury There

MONTGOMERY, Ala., April 14.—Sheriff Kyle of Tallapoosa County is reported to have threatened to have Irving Schwab, International Labor Defense Attorney, whipped if he returns to Tallapoosa County to defend five Negro Share Croppers to be tried April 25 on the framed up charge of "assault with intent to murder."

Open threats are being made that no negroes will be admitted in court. Armed deputies will patrol the highways, as during the January hearing and prevent Negro sharecroppers aroused by the case from coming to the trial.

In this atmosphere of martial law and terror the white landlords of the South hope to railroad the croppers to a maximum sentence of 85 years.

DADEVILLE, Ala.—Trials of five Negro share-croppers indicted on framed charges of "assault with intent to murder," following the murderous attack of a gang, which included deputy-sheriffs on the home of Cliff James, Negro farmer, last December 19, have been set for April 25 by Judge W. B. Bowling in Tallapoosa County Circuit Court.

Nineteen were indicted jointly on four similar charges, carrying 20 years each, but only the five who have been held in jail since January have so far been arrested, though posses have been scouring this and neighboring counties for two weeks, searching for them.

A motion to quash the indictments against the croppers on the ground that Negroes were illegally excluded from the Grand Jury which indicted them, in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment, presented by Irving Schwab, International Labor Defense attorney representing the croppers, was over-ruled.

Negro farmers called to support this motion testified boldly, but Nunn, local Negro preacher, and Darnell, Negro high school principal, refused to testify when they were summoned to court.

### Negroes Never on Jury

An old white resident testified that to his knowledge no Negroes had ever been called for jury service in the past fifty years.

Judson Simpson, Sam Moss, Clinton Moss, Ned Cobb and Alfred White are the five croppers under arrest.

A change of venue from Dadeville to Montgomery will be asked by the I. L. D. when the cases come up.

Four Negro farmers and croppers were murdered in the attack upon Cliff James home. Three deputi-

Alabama.

DADEVILLE, ALA., April 26—The Elder was fired by Ned Cobb and that Schwab said "Perhaps he felt that no Tallapoosa Circuit Court jury today re-the other defendants were there through negro had a right to talk to a white turned a verdict of guilty of assault a "conspiracy" a "confederation and a man like that. But does that justify with intent to murder in the trial o' unity of purpose" with Cobb and were murder? five negroes who were identified as be therefore equally as guilty under the "When he returned after having made in a group who gave battle to foul law. Tallapoosa officers last December at the home of Cliff James in Reeltown. Other Cases Postponed

such a threat I say that these men had a perfect right to defend themselves."

### Heflin Opens Prosecution

The jury deliberated an hour and 45ed. with assault with intent to murder minutes after having received the case growing out of the battle at the James home, but Solicitor Powell announced learned, had agreed that his argument

The negroes, Ned Cobb, Sam Moss, Alf White, Clinton Moss and Judson Simpson, heard the verdict without the which Attorney Schwab gave notice cusion of the racial issues injected early slightest show of surprise, and a scat would be made to the Alabama Court in the trial. While this limitation

tered crowd in the court room offered Appeals. seemed to shorten his gestures the former demonstration. Sentence of not less than two years or more than 20 will predicate for an appeal to the United States Supreme Court by contending crowd that rapidly filled the courtroom

A short while before the defendants had heard their attorney, Irvin Schwab, any negroes in the venire. Presenting the case as a matter of

counsel for the International Labor Defense League, a communist organization, Atty. Schwab asked the indulgence of grave concern to whites and negroes to characterize the State's case as "a perfect case" and while declaring his belief in the innocence of the negroes as been violated through failure to include Tom" was speaking.

Atty. Schwab also established a mer Senator nevertheless presented a than two years or more than 20 will predicate for an appeal to the United States Supreme Court by contending crowd that rapidly filled the courtroom provision of the 14th amendment had when word was noised about that "Cot

Elder, he declared, was an officer of

counsel for the International Labor Defense League in other trials involving Tallapoosa County. The defendants, he

defendants had heard an admission that racial issues in the States, Atty. Schwab declared, admitted they (Ned Cobb and it was a "perfect case," citing the positive identification by four deputies of Cliff James) told Deputy Elder they

four of the defendants as having been present at the James home when the shooting took place, while only one of

two deputies of the fifth as being at the James home.

Former U. S. Senator J. Thomas Heflin, who was permitted to participate in the prosecution upon the insistence of the four officers and local citizens, had declared the issue to be solely one of "law against outlawry."

Brilliant Charge

And at the close, Judge W. B. Bowling, austere, cool and firm, delivered a brilliant charge in which the zealous safeguards of the law for the defendant was emphasized with an impartial and concise summary of the evidence.

The case, in brief, as defined by Judge Bowling, hinged upon the jury's findings as to who was the aggressor in the shooting.

If the jury should find, he charged, that the officers fired first and without provocation as claimed by Ned Cobb, but contended that none of the defendants took part in the shooting. He told how the testimony

of the defendant, then, he declared, the negroes were entitled, under the law to protect themselves. The officers, he said, the leg showed there was no intent to murder anyone as the officers were out express authority in the warrants for

the shooting were in the house, behind their guns when they armed themselves. He pictured Ned Cobb standing in the yard of James's home when the officers fired the first shot, then the officer place," he said. "This shooting is the

On the other hand, it was made clear if the jury should find that Ned Cobb fired the first shot, then the officer place," he said. "This shooting is the were wholly within their rights in direct result of these organized deputies protecting themselves. The four officers ha going in an armed squad in the words

testified Cobb fired the first shot. of Ned Cobb 'to come back and kill the

The indictment charged specifically you all in a pile." that the five defendants assaulted wit Recalling the refusal of James to de-intent to murder Deputy Cliff Elder, wh live the livestock when Deputy Elder was shot in the leg. The State confirst visited the James home and Cobb's tended that the shot that wounde conversation with the officer. Atty.

"Thank God," he shouted, "the juries of my State are always fair and just. There isn't a jury I have ever seen who would convict an innocent negro. But whether the outlaw be white or black he must be put down, promptly and vig-

*Editorial*  
**Tallapoosa Jury Convicts First 5 In Reeltown Riot**  
*Montgomery*  
**I. L. D. Advocate Admits 'Perfect Case Against Adopted Negro Clients**

## Planning Appeal

**Heflin Joins Prosecution At Behest Of Officers Wounded During Clash**

By GEORGE L. DAVIS  
Advertiser Staff Correspondent

orously."

The former Senator asked that the full penalty be given, but the term is a matter for the court's discretion.

The closing argument was made by Solicitor Powell. Atty. Strother and County Solicitor Sam Oliver who also aided the prosecution, did not speak.

"We have made out a case and he (Attorney Schwab) admits it's a 'perfect case,'" Solicitor Powell declared. "We have made out a perfect case and we testified he was not at James's home did it just as fairly and as quietly as when Deputy Elder came but went to any case ever tried in this courtroom." McMullen's home about 10:15. (The

#### Judge Questions Witness

At this point Judge Bowling asked the witness: "Where did that shooting come from?" "I don't know," Oliver replied. "Was there any shooting from the house or towards the house?" "I don't know."

On redirect examination Oliver said Sam Moss was the next witness. He said he was not at James's home during the morning before the shooting occurred about 1 p.m.). Cross-

He pictured the officers as walking into a trap when they went to James's first cousin of James's wife, and lived home, with five negroes in the yard as eight miles from the James home. He a decoy. When the shooting started, he admitted he was at the James home said, it came from the house, from the during the morning before the shooting barn and behind terraces. "The shoot-occurred. ing came from in front, from on the side and from behind them," he said James's home about 9:30 a.m. but wasn't "and the only reason they are alive to there when the shooting started. day is because of a Divine Providence and bad aim."

He assailed the contentions of defense went with him to the James home that morning. He said he saw there Ned

"They would take the flag of justice," Cobb, John McMullen, Clinton Moss and he said, "and grind it in the dust. In Ivy Moss. He denied he told Deputy one minute they whine 'we are not pro-Henry Webster that he was there at the tected' and in the next minute they time of the shooting. take the law into their own hands.

Nancy James, widow of Cliff James. Summarizing the evidence he remind-said she left home when the officers ed the jurors that Deputies Elder, D. returned with guns and went to the Mc-A. Ware, J. A. Alfred and Marshall Mullen home. She said she saw Sam Gauntt had each identified Cobb, Sam Moss there.

and Clinton Moss, and Alf White as Clinton Moss said he was at the having been present at the James home James home "part of the time." He tes-tified he saw the deputies arrive with at the time of the shooting.

Deputy Elder said he saw Judson guns and that he left before the shoot-Simpson there also, but the other offi-ing started.

Cross-examined by Powell the witness "Ned Cobb admits he was there," he said Ivy Moss had told him there was a said, "and stayed there until the shoot-meeting at Cliff James's and he "thought he'd go over and see." He said he didn't

"Clinton Moss admits he was there but see anyone behind the terraces or in said he left when the shooting started. the barn and didn't hear anyone say

"They tell you Sam Moss was not "let the Winchesters work." there. Why? Because Sam Moss said so. Ned Cobb testified he went to the James home about sun-up that morning He admits he had been there earlier in the day.

He said he pleaded with Deputy Elder not to take James's stock and told him "we ain't going to agree for you to take them."

Elder, he said, declared he would "go back and get Kyle Young and he'll come back and kill you all in a pile, and you know when he comes he comes in shooting."

Cobb denied the officers called to him or tried to arrest him when they re-turned that afternoon.

"They came at me with guns lev-eled," he said. "I got scared and turned to go into the house and as I turned they shot me."

He said he thought it was Mr. Gauntt who shot him. He said he was shot three times and ran into the house, and into a room.

"I heard lots of shooting and after the shooting stopped I went out and went home."

Cross-examined by Powell the witness said he was unarmed and did not shoot He denied that he told Deputy Elder that "Kyle Young and all of his deputie-can't take those mules."

"What kind of meeting was that?" was asked.

"It was a cropper's meeting."

"Is that the Sharecropper's Union?" The witness replied it was a "crop-per's meeting."

He elicited that he saw Alf White there before the shooting and did not see him leave. He said he did not know who did the shooting as it was "in the other room."

When the officers approached him, he declared, they did not say anything "an without a word being said they just shot him." He said he did not see any guns there.

Judson Simpson testified yesterday declaring he was at home and his testi-mony was corroborated by his wife.

## VA STUDENTS DEFEND NEGROES

### Protest Ala. Terror; Socialists Opposed

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., Jan. 20—Over-riding the opposition of "socialist" students, the Liberal Discussion Group of the University of Virginia, adopted a resolution protesting against the landlord-police terror against the Negro croppers and exploited farmers of Tallapoosa County, Ala.

The resolution was introduced by the president of the group and defended by a Southern-born student in a militant speech, against the opposition of the "socialists" students. The speaker described conditions in South Carolina, and agreed with the president that the landlord-terror was directed against the entire working-class by seeking to crush the struggles of one of its sections. He declared that as students interested in social problems they should have the courage of their convictions.

#### Socialist Students In Fear.

The "Socialist" students expressed fear that the group would be branded as Communistic if it supported the struggles of the Negro people. The president answered that if the students took any part in the class-struggle, he would expect them to be branded as a Communistic group, and he hoped they would merit the term.

The resolution was offered following an address by John Rogers, artist and writer, on "The Significance of the Hunger March."

Several students volunteered to make an investigation of conditions in the mill-districts and slums of Charlottesville.

Agriculture - 1933

Labor Conditions.

## Heflin Proffers Dadeville Negroes Are Sentenced To Aid At Dadeville Terms Ranging From 5 To 15 Years

DADEVILLE, ALA., April 27—(P)—  
Volunteers Services With  
Prosecution Of Negroes  
Championed By I. J. D.

DADEVILLE, ALA., April 23.—(Spe.)—Trial of five of 19 negroes charged with assault to murder in connection with the shooting of four Tallapoosa County officers last December when they sought to serve a writ of attachment on Cliff James, negro farmer, is scheduled to open Tuesday at 10 a. m. in the Tallapoosa Circuit Court.

A motion by the defense to quash the venire on the grounds that no negroes were included on the list is expected to follow: Sentences imposed by Judge Bowling were included on the list and three negroes were slain. Ned Cobb, 12 to 15 years; Judson Simpson, 10 to 12 years; Clinton Moss and Alf White, 10 to 10 1/2 years and Sam Moss, 5 to 6 years. The five negroes were found guilty late yesterday after four deputies had testified that the defendants were among the negroes participating in the Reeltown battle, in which the four officers were wounded.

Four indictments were returned, each of the 19 defendants being named in each indictment. The indictments alleged that one of the 19 defendants in each indictment fired on the officers—in other words that four shots were fired at the officers by four of the defendants. The State will attempt to show the other 15 defendants conspired, aided and abetted in the shooting—a charge, which if proven, according to Solicitor R. H. Powell, Jr., would make these 15 defendants as guilty as the persons who fired the shots.

The State will be represented by Solicitor Powell. James W. Strother, of Dadeville, has been employed by the officer to assist in the prosecution. Former Senator J. Thomas Heflin, has volunteered his services to aid the prosecution, and is expected to confer with attorneys for the prosecution tomorrow morning.

Irving Schwab, of New York, attorney of the International Labor Defense, will represent the defendants.

The negroes to face trial Tuesday are Judson Simpson, Ned Cobb, Sam and Clinton Moss and Alf White.

In the battle with the officers at the James home James was fatally wounded and one negro was killed. Another negro shot by officers of Macon County who were searching for Ned Cobb, died a few days later. The negro admitted that he shot at the Macon County officers.

Alabama.

## CROPPERS PLEDGE 2,500 NEW MEMBERS AS REPLY TO TALLAPOOSA FRAMEUP

### Deputies Only Persecution Witnesses; Labor Defense Puts Up Militant Court Fight

### Appeal to Workers and Farmers of U.S.A. to Make National Issue of Case

REELTOWN, Ala., May 1.—A meeting held in Tallapoosa County which was attended by members of the Sharecroppers' Union from Tallapoosa as well as adjoining counties pledged to enroll 2,500 members into the union by August 1.

This was the answer of the Negro croppers to the action of the white landlords in railroading five of their leaders to the state penitentiary for long prison terms after a frame-up trial just concluded in Dadeville.

Leaders of the union attending the meeting reported that the imprisonment of Ned Cobb, Judson Simpson, Alf White, Clinton and Sam Moss will only spur the croppers to greater activity in building their union, and appealed to the workers and farmers of the U. S. to make a nationwide issue of the frame-up.

#### Highlights of Trial

DADEVILLE, Ala. (By Mail).—"I shot him in the side, just like I could shoot you in the side!"

This was the answer of J. A. Alford, Tallapoosa county deputy to a question put to him by Irving Schwab, International Labor Defense attorney, to the circumstances of the shooting of Negro croppers assembled at the home of Cliff James to help him protect his stock from seizure.

The only witnesses of the prosecution were deputies—four of them—and all of them admitted shooting at the croppers, three of whom later died of their wounds.

Defense Attorney Schwab interrupted the deputies' testimony to object to their constant and deliberate use of the term "nigger." The court

The weight of the deputies' testimony was directed at proving the complicity of both Cobb and Judson Simpson. These two were known to be leaders of the union and the State was determined to "get" them.

Ned Cobb was the chief witness for the defense. He graphically and boldly described the gathering of the croppers to prevent the taking of Cliff James' stock. He said he told Cliff to let talk with the deputy and that he pleaded with the latter not to take James' livestock, saying that James' family would starve if the stock was taken away. Cobb said when Elder remained determined to take the livestock he told them they would not succeed in their attempt. The deputy Elder then told them he would get Sheriff Kyle Young and come back and "kill all the niggers in a pile," Cobb testified.

He quoted Elder as saying that "when Sheriff Kyle Young comes in, he comes shooting."

"About one o'clock the 'law' came. Several of us were in the yard, near the house. We waited until the 'law' walked up close, and when we saw them point their guns at us, we started into the house. I was shot three times in the back before I could get in. Cliff James was shot in the back, too. John McMullin was shot through the neck and killed."

Incidentally, Sheriff Young was wounded when a meeting of the sharecroppers was attacked in Camp Hill last summer, resulting in the death of Ralph Gray. He is quoted as having said recently that he intended to resign soon as he is "sick and tired of being shot up."

#### Defy Deputies

"Kyle Young and all his deputies aren't going to get the stock" Deputy Cliff Elder quoted Ned Cobb as stating when he first visited Cliff James' house on the morning of Dec. 19th.

Thereupon he left and returned later with three other deputies—Marshall Gantt, Dowdell Ware and "Stool" Alford. These four deputies testified that they parked their car in the road and walked the 150 yards to James' house. There they saw about 12 Negroes in the yard in front of the house. Among these were Cobb, James, Simpson, Clinton and Sam Moss. As the deputies approached the Negroes drifted into the house.

To prove that Judson Simpson was not at Cliff James' cabin at the time of the attack, Attorney Schwab put Mrs. Simpson on the stand. She testified that Judson had dinner at home that day, and that they heard the shooting. He came in in the morning about 11:30 after cutting wood with his boys, and after dinner she sewed

and he read a paper in front of the fire. Simpson was still there toward evening when the mob visited their house. Mrs. Simpson stated that Claud Rowell, deputy of Macon County, was the leader of the mob, and that they pushed into the house, hit her on the head with the butt of a pistol and shot Judson twice. Mrs. Simpson said she could hear Judson groan.

#### Powell Apes Knight

Her testimony was corroborated by her niece, Susie Mae Cotton. State Solicitor R. H. Powell, Jr., who showed extreme satisfaction, even glee, each time a witness said he didn't know, and took delight in mocking their colloquialisms, tried to break down Mrs. Simpson's testimony, but he failed completely in this. She remained clear and firm throughout his questioning, though he sought by the most vicious methods to confuse her. He continued to bait her until she showed militant defiance of his vicious tactics.

Judson Simpson, first of the defendants to testify in their own behalf, told a clear-cut story. In the morning he stated he sawed wood with his boys in the woods and came home for dinner. Simpson said he saw Deputy Cliff Elder and three others pass his house, going in the direction of the James' house. Fifteen minutes later, Simpson said, he heard shooting. He steadfastly maintained he had had no part in the shooting, although Powell tried to demonstrate that — because he was James' brother-in-law he must of necessity have been there.

#### Court Is Crowded

All day the court room was jammed with people, and with the forced admittance of some 300 Negroes. There were about 1,000 spectators present. Spectators crowded the aisles and the window ledges and overflowed into the platform and the space between it and the first row of seats. The atmosphere in the court room for the most part was hostile as a result of the vicious press campaign carried on against the Sharecroppers' Union.

At the opening of the trial, Solicitor Powell demanded that all witnesses leave the court room. Schwab demanded that this be applied to the deputies who were to testify. The judge refused to accede to this demand, and the deputies were permitted to remain in the court room and throughout the trial they dominated the proceeding. Kyle Young even assisting the state in the selection of the jury.

## FIVE SENTENCED IN ALABAMA CASE

~~Telegraph~~  
Negroes Involved in Reeltown Disorders Get Terms Ranging From 5 to 15 Years

DADEVILLE, Ala., April 27 (AP) — Stating that he believed they had been "misled and made victims of bad advice," Judge W. B. Bowling Thursday sentenced to prison for terms varying from five to 15 years the five Negroes convicted of assault with intent to murder in connection with the Reeltown disorders last Dec. 19.

Irvin Schwab, defense attorney, employed by the International Labor Defense in the case, filed notice of appeal immediately. He laid the ground work for his appeal by introducing testimony at the opening of the trial intended to show that Negroes had been excluded from the jury rolls of Tallapoosa county. Sentences imposed by Judge Bow-

Ned Cobb, 12 to 15 years; Judson Simpson, 10 to 12 years; Clinton Moss and Alf White, 10 to 10 1/2 years, and Sam Moss, five to six years.

The five Negroes were found guilty late Wednesday after four deputy sheriffs had testified that the defendants were among the Negroes participating in the Reeltown battle, in which the four officers were wounded and three Negroes were slain.

Testimony was given at the trial that the Negroes had gathered at the home of Cliff James, one of the 12-15 years; Judson, 49 years old, share Croppers union and that they fought a pitched battle with the deputies when they came to attach Livestock owned by James.

The officers told of being greeted by a fusillade of shots from the James house, the barn, and the field nearby, after the battle had been opened by Ned Cobb. The bullet from Cobb's pistol, the officers testified, struck Deputy Sheriff W. C. Elder.

It was on the specific charge of assault on Deputy Elder that the Negroes were tried.

## Bullets Removed from Sharecroppers Jailed for Past Five Months

Tallapoosa Trial Is Described by Schwab, I.L.D. Lawyer, Just Back from Alabama

By SENDER GARLIN

Bullets were extracted from Ned Cobb and Judson Simpson, Tallapoosa Negro sharecroppers, only the other day after being embedded in their bodies for nearly five months that the poor white farmers present — while in prison awaiting trial — in the court room were impressed by the defense attorney, Irvin Schwab, International Labor the case of the defendants and by Daily Worker. One of the bullets was re-half by the International Labor Defense.

Schwab recently returned from the South where he conducted the defense of the sharecroppers who were jailed following an attack upon them. Ned Cobb said, "I still love the movement and even though I am in jail, I am still with the fight."

Leaders of the Sharecroppers Union, from seizure by deputies.

Arrayed against the I.L.D. lawyer were five prosecution counsels headed by the klu kluxer and ex-U. S. Senator, Tom Heflin of Alabama.

**Get Maximum Sentences**

In traveling through the county I learned that conditions are much better since the Reeltown battle, and that there had been a let-up on seizure of stock and foreclosures.

"The highways around Dadeville were blocked all day by armed deputies and thugs, driving the Negroes back from the highways as they approached the town. Despite this, the Negro croppers waded across creeks, fixed up rafts in order to cross larger bodies of water. In other cases, they waited until the deputies left and then marched into Dadeville. During the trial I spoke to the wife of one of the sharecroppers. She told me the story of her 15-year-old son. He like the others was stopped outside of Dadeville, but succeeded in getting in through the swamps."

**22 Negroes Testify**

Rivaling the heroism of the Negroes who came to testify in the Scottsboro case, 22 Negro witnesses took the stand in the Tallapoosa trial, the I.L.D. lawyer said. Several of these testified on the motion of the defense to dismiss the indictment on the ground that Negroes are systematically excluded from jury service.

After the case was submitted to the jury and while the jury was out, Schwab told the Daily Worker "several white farmers came over and expressed sympathy for the defendants. Others, more cautious, showed their interest by asking whether there was a chance of the jury 'turning them loose'."

**Sympathy Among Whites**  
Schwab said that at the opening of the trial "there was evidence of hostility in the courtroom, but as the trial progressed, it was obvious

dict against the Tallapoosa defendants has only made them more determined to fight. Schwab declared. He told of "the new spirit which is developing, as shown in the May 1 demonstration in Birmingham where Negro workers fought with police who were trying to arrest Jane Speed, a Southern white woman."

The only thing that can save the Tallapoosa croppers is a nation-wide protest, the I.L.D. lawyer concluded. These protests should be sent to Governor B. M. Miller, Montgomery, Ala.

## 16 Alabama Negro ~~Sharecroppers~~ Croppers Beaten by Landlord Jailed

Accused of Stealing Supplies Mislaid By Land-Owner

OPELIKA, Ala., Dec. 21.—Sixteen Negro share-croppers of this region are in jail on a framed charge of stealing cotton and seed after suffering a merciless beating by their landlord.

The landlord accused 20 Negroes of stealing his supplies, which were later found just where he had put them. He approached each of the 20 Negroes separately, handcuffed them, chained their feet, and took them into the woods. There he beat them unmercifully with a length of hose, so that their clothes stuck to bloody wounds.

One Negro who did not stop screaming under the blows, after he had been ordered to keep silence, was shot through the arm.

Four of the victims were then released, and 16 have been held under bonds of \$1,000 each. The trials are set for May.

Fall to Terrorize

Far from terrorizing the Negro croppers and city workers, the ver-

Agriculture-1933

Alabama

Labor Conditions.

Negro Farm Women  
Clean White Homes

for Relief Flour

By a Negro Farmer Correspondent.

CAMP HILL, Ala. The Red Cross has changed their plans. They used to give the flour away but now you have to work for it. They won't get it. Of course we had to work hard enough as it was. They would give you a blank to have signed. You have to walk all over Camp Hill trying to get someone to sign it.

But since they changed it, you have to walk like hell to some old Miss's house to clean up before you get flour.

-A Farm Woman.

A Black Belt Farmer  
Helps to Organize  
Against Landlords

By a Negro Farmer Correspondent

DADEVILLE, Ala. The revolutionary movement that is waged in the Black Belt, step after step is taken to organize the unorganized workers and farmers. The landlords are depriving of the right to live. Just as the landlords are doing everywhere else the world over, except South Africa, the workers have successfully overthrown capitalism.

Every worker and farmer should join the labor organizations and fight for better conditions. Once there was a time when everything was far off but everything is right here.

A few days ago I heard a fellow say the next war would be fought by youth and he further stated it would be in some other country and the U. S. youth are better trained than in any other country. The working class youth are the ones who are being trained to fight other working class youth.

The working class should wage the fight against the boss capitalist class. We are further organizing workers, farmers and everything else that must strive for a living. Fight for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys.

-By Red Dot.

100 In Venire For  
Trial At Dadeville

Advertiser

DADEVILLE, ALA., April 22.—(P)—A venire of 100 prospective jurors to-night was under summons for the trial of five negroes, alleged participants in race disorders last December, who will face trial Tuesday on charges of assault to murder.

The negroes specifically charged with firing on four deputies sheriff who were wounded in a clash in which three negroes were killed. The deputies were shot during a battle at the home of Cliff Jeans, where they had gone to serve a writ of attachment on some mules under a mortgage foreclosure.

Preliminary to the trial, motions to quash the venire, because it includes no negroes, and a movement for a change of venue have been announced by Irvin Schwab, of New York, counsel employed for the defendants by the International Labor Defense.

Schwab filed a motion to quash the indictments because of absence of negroes from the Grand Jury returning the true bills. Judge W. B. Bowling, after hearing evidence and arguments, denied the motion.

The grounds for the motions to quash were the same as those filed at Decatur four weeks ago in behalf of the nine defendants in the Scottsboro case—that the constitutional rights of the defendants were violated through "systematic and arbitrary exclusion of negroes from the jury solely because of their race."

The negroes who will be tried at one time under an agreement of counsel, are Judson Simpson, Sam and Clinton Moss, Ned Cobb and Alf White.

Letters To The Editor

Please be brief. We reserve the right to cut letters more than 300 words long.

THE FRIENDS OF A NEGRO EDUCATOR  
Editor The Advertiser.

I shall appreciate it if you will allow this letter to appear in the columns of your paper to correct an error in a name which appeared in the Colored Editor's article in the issue of your paper of Jan. 10, concerning Mr. W. S. Parker of Notasulga and myself. I wish to state that it was not Mr. T. M. McLendon who aided me. It was Mr. M. T. Evans of Notasulga and Mr. W. S. Parker.

It was in 1909 when only a boy living in the vicinity of Notasulga, that my parents allowed me to take a farm on shares with Mr. M. T. Evans. I persuaded them to allow me to do this because they were too poor to assist me in getting away to school. Through the help and guidance I received under Mr. Evans I made six bales of cotton. It was through the influence of Mr. Evans that Mr.

W. S. Parker furnished me supplies and I wish to state that I found him reliable, sympathetic towards my efforts, and encouraged me in every way possible.

After picking and selling six bales of cotton and paying my indebtedness, I took the proceeds from my part and entered school that Fall with every encouragement from both of these gentlemen.

The next year while in school, I borrowed money from Mr. M. T. Evans and had no security to give him my word of honor. He said he had not seen a negro trusted me and I did not betray that trust, for I paid him in full. It was Mr. M. T. Evans who helped to make it possible for me to graduate from high school and I had every encouragement from him when I left the State.

Selecting a jury was completed shortly after noon and Elder took the stand

I consider Mr. Evans and Mr. Parker among the best of my white friends and I would not hesitate to call on either of them in any emergency.

E. J. O'NEAL, principal, Montgomery County Training School. Waugh, Ala.

State Rests In  
Dadeville Trials

Negro Defendant Identified

By Four Witnesses As  
Having Fired First Shot

DADEVILLE, ALA., April 25.—(P)—

Ned Cobb, one of five negroes on trial, charged with assault with intent to murder, for alleged participation in the Reeltown disorders, last Dec. 19, today was identified by four state witnesses as having fired the first shot.

The four deputies sheriffs who were wounded in the battle at the home of Cliff James, negro, where they had gone to serve a writ of attachment on some livestock, were the only witnesses called by the State and told similar stories. The State rested at 4:20 p.m.

James was one of three negroes killed in the fight which officers said participated by Cobb who had told them "Sheriff Kyle Young has not enough deputies to take them mules."

Deputy Sheriff Cliff Elder, the first state witness called, said Cobb fired the first shot and the bullet struck him in the leg. Elder also identified Judson Simpson, Alf White, Clinton and Sam Moss the other defendants as among those present at the home of Cliff James, negro farmer, when he and three other deputies sought to serve writs of attachment on James's livestock.

The trial moved swiftly after Judge W. B. Bowling, presiding, had denied a motion to quash the venire filed by Irvin Schwab, of New York, employed by the International Labor Defense to defend the negroes.

# Ex-Senator Heflin Heads Prosecution in Trial of Tallapoosa Sharecroppers

By Special Correspondent of D. W.

DADEVILLE, Ala., April 26—Former Senator Thomas J. Heflin of Alabama was at the state table is."

as special prosecutor today when

the trial of five Talapoosa Negro

sharecroppers began. The croppers

are charged with "assault with in-

tent to murder" following a mur-

derous attack upon them and other

members of the Sharecroppers' Union

at the home of Cliff James, one of their leaders, on December

19 of last year.

The presence of Heflin is an in-

dication of the determination of

the Alabama landlords to crush the

Sharecroppers Union by railroad-

ing the defendants to the state

penitentiary for terms ranging

from 20 to 80 years.

## Fight on Jury

With the Scottsboro fight fresh in the minds of thousands of Ne-

groes in the Black Belt. Irving

Schwab, International Labor De-

fense attorney, who is assisted by

A. W. Morrison of Atlanta, at once

moved to quash the jury venire

and to dismiss the indictments

against the croppers on the ground

that Negroes have been systemati-

cally excluded from jury service

Tallapoosa county for at least

years. Judge W. B. Bowling, a

former congressman of this district,

saying the same thing).

promptly denied the motions.

All of the prosecution's "star"

Schwab then protested the bar-

witnesses consisted of deputy she-

riffs. Four of them were put on

room and charged that Sheriff

the stand by the state—Elder,

Kyle Young and his deputies were

Gantt, Alford and Ware. Under

intimidating the croppers who

swarmed into Dadeville to attend

Schwab, it was brought out that

the trial. The judge directed that they were heavily armed when

the sheriff have whites vacate a

section and admit Negroes. Within

cabin in Reeltown last December

a few moments, more than 300 and

that they fired as long as their

Negroes, most of them sharecrop-

pers, filed silently and impress-

ively into the courtroom, which is

one of the largest in this section

Deputies Only "Star" Witnesses

of the state.

The Negroes entered the court-

room while Schwab was cross-ex-

amining Thomas Bugg, editor and

publisher of the "Dadeville Re-

cord" on an editorial in his paper

which declared that "the evil of

our jury system would be great-

fused and contradictory in their

aggravated were Negroes placed

in the jury box. . . It is not at all

duce the court order which they

necessary for Negroes to serve on

said they had for the arrest of the

our juries in order to secure just-Negro

croppers at the time of the

ice in our courts. . . It is not the shooting.

Negro who is clamoring for this right, but white people whose mo-

ties are ulterior. It is best for

all for our system to remain as it

is. . . .

In addition to those seat 1,

massed groups stood on each side

of the room at the two entrances.

Schwab put half a dozen Negro

witnesses on the stand to support

the defense motion to quash the

venire. At least 2,100 Negroes are

eligible for and able to meet jury

service requirements, in the county

Schwab pointed out.

Ferrets out Klansmen

The I. L. D. attorney selected

the jury with as much care as

possible under the Alabama sys-

tem. He asked each prospective

juror his occupation, his attitude

toward the Negro and whether or

was a member of the Klu

lan, which, incidentally,

exists in Dadeville and sur-

rounding towns under the direc-

tion of the landlords and mill-

owners.

Schwab challenged the prosecu-

tion to produce the literature of

the Sharecroppers' Union "about

which the newspapers around here

have said so much," but the sheriff

told the court he "thought it had

all been destroyed." (The prosecu-

tion in the Mooney frame-up is now

saying the same thing).

Schwab then protested the bar-

witnesses consisted of deputy she-

riffs. Four of them were put on

room and charged that Sheriff

the stand by the state—Elder,

Kyle Young and his deputies were

Gantt, Alford and Ware. Under

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Deputies Only "Star" Witnesses

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duce the court order which they

necessary for Negroes to serve on

said they had for the arrest of the

our juries in order to secure just-Negro

croppers at the time of the

ice in our courts. . . It is not the shooting.

Several white character wit-

nesses for the defense who agreed

to testify when approached a week

ago came to Schwab today and

frankly told him that they had been

threatened and feared to take the

stand.

## Prosecution Line-Up

The fear which the Alabama

landlords have of the Sharecrop-

pers Union and the International

Labor Defense both of which are

growing in influence throughout

the South, is indicated by the heavy

legal battery which the prosecu-

tion has assembled. In addition to

former senator Heflin are J. W.

Strother, of Dadeville, and Circuit

Solicitor Richard Powell, Jr., and

County Solicitor Sam Oliver. Hef-

lin said he "had received approx-

imately 100 requests to enter the

case."

This is an interesting tie-up:

Bowling, the presiding judge in

the present trial, succeeded Hef-

lin in Congress in 1920 when the

latter went to the U. S. Senate.

Bowling resigned in 1928 to ac-

cept the judgeship of this circuit.

Heflin was dressed in his usual

splendorific attire—frocktail coat,

striped vest and all.

## Dadeville Five Face Trial Today; Defense Quash Motion Expected

DADEVILLE, Ala., April 24 (Spe-

cial)—With only about 10 witnesses sum-

moned the State is expected to present

within a few hours its case against five

of 19 negroes charged with assault with

intent to murder four Tallapoosa County

officers once the trial is opened in the

Tallapoosa Circuit Court tomorrow.

The defense, however, which is to be con-

ducted by an attorney for the Inter-

national Labor Defense League, Commun-

ist organization, is expected to present a

large array of witnesses.

At the opening of the case today the defense is expected to enter a motion to

quash the venire on the grounds that it

was drawn in violation of the 14th

Amendment to the Constitution of the

United States in that no negroes are on

the venire. This will be a move by the

</div

Arkansas.

Agriculture -1933

Labor Conditions.

## Sharecroppers Unpaid After Destroying Cotton for Gov't

Mass Meetings in Arkansas Held to Take Up  
Plan of Action; Alabama Croppers Refuse  
to Sign Checks for Landlords

(By a Negro Worker Correspondent)

CHICAGO, Ill.—My sister is a sharecropper in Arkansas. As such, of course, she with the rest of the sharecroppers, in Lincoln, Neb., and other counties, had to plow under their cotton.

My sister plowed under five acres, for which the Government was to pay her, but she has not been paid to the writing of the last letter, which I received only last week. The sharecroppers were told that they would have to accept their share of the pay in trade. *[Signature]*

It seems that these Croppers had begun holding mass meetings to find some way out to alleviate their miseries. A lawyer Jones, I believe, is the name, from Little Rock, came and advised them to join the Red Cross. This I learned by asking my sister to tell me just what he said in his talk. She did not know of him before or his record.

This misleader Jones has the nerve to come and ask the sharecroppers to join the same Red Cross which discriminates against Negroes as they did for instance in 1931 during the drought and also in the flood-swept zone of several southern states.

### A Common Enemy

It is a fact that the big landowners do not care any more for the white sharecroppers than they do for the Negro sharecropper. The sharecroppers of Alabama, Camp Hill and Tuscaloosa and other counties, what are they doing about precisely the same situation with which they are confronted. They are organizing Negro and white sharecroppers, tenant and small impoverished farmers together into our union known as the Sharecroppers' Union. In this union a recent decision was made and is being carried out to refuse to sign the check that the Wall Street Government sends the blood-sucking big landowners instead of those who really do the work tilling the soil to grow the cotton and then are forced to plow it under.

The Alabama Sharecroppers' Union which has a membership of 5,000, gets together and formulates demands to be presented before signing the check or they do not sign. One of these demands is that at least one half of the check must be paid to the signer.

Why can't the sharecroppers of Arkansas organize a union of the Arkansas sharecroppers. Under the guidance of the militant T. U. U. L. and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights.

Editor's Note: This situation has been drawn to the attention of the Communist Party in Arkansas, and an organizer will no doubt get busy immediately.

## General

## Agriculture - 1933

## Labor Conditions

# FARM SEIZURES DOUBLE IN YEAR

## Militancy in Cour Wins Cal. Case

BULLETIN

**GARY**, Ind., Jan. 17.—Embittered by mounting debts, Mike Lantare, 67-year-old farmer barricaded himself in his farmhouse when police came to arrest him following a clash over the ownership of a tree, and with shotgun and revolver stood off scores of cops for hours before they succeeded in slaying Lantare. When the battle was over the casualties included, in addition to the aged farmer, Sheriff Roy Holley of Lake County and Louis Boettner of Ross who were killed and one cop, one sheriff and one deputy who were wounded.

### **Farm Foreclosures Double**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—Statistics which startlingly reveal the depth of the capitalist crisis as it has affected the farmers of the U. S. are contained in the five year report just issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Nine and one-half per cent of the farmers lost their farms during this period as a result of forced sales arising from foreclosures of mortgages, bankruptcy, default of contract, sales to avoid foreclosures, surrender of title or other transfers to avoid foreclosure.

An average of 13 farmers out of every 1,000 were driven off the land because of inability to pay taxes during the past year, it is revealed. This is double the number of the previous year.

The sharp decline in farmers' income is the basis for the continued ruination of thousands of farmers, particularly in New England and in the Mountain states. The index of farm prices as of Dec. 15 was 52 per cent of the 1910-1914 average.

#### **Stop More Sheriff's Sales**

**Stop More Sheriff's Sales**  
**OMAHA, Jan. 17.**—Militant action on the part of farmers was once more displayed when farmers mobilized at two points today and forced sheriffs to postpone mortgage foreclosure sales. At Dakota City, Neb., 500 determined farmers appeared at the farm of Thomas Sullivan and served notice that there would be no bidding. The sheriff offered the land for sale

three times, but the response was stony silence, and the sale had to be postponed indefinitely.

BISMARCK, N. D., Jan. 17.—In an effort to justify the use of the state militia to smash farm strikes, Senator W. E. Martin today introduced a measure to "legalize farm strikes and to empower the governor to call out the militia to maintain order should riots ensue."

**Amends Fake Farm Bill.**

**NEW YORK.**—Senator Ellison D. Smith, of So. Carolina, ranking Democratic member on the Senate Agricultural Committee yesterday urged amendment of the "farm parity" bill to include only wheat and cotton instead of the seven products originally proposed—wheat, cotton, tobacco, peanuts, rice, butter fat and hops.

This bill proposes that farmers reduce their crops on these items, receiving a subsidy if proof is offered that 20 per cent less was grown than the previous year. It is an attempt to cut down acreage so that those who are holding large supplies of wheat and other products can get higher prices.

**Cal. Strikers Win Victory.**  
VACAVILLE, Cal., Jan. 17.—The second trial of the three Melgar brothers and A. Espinosa resulted in a second victory for the striking Vacaville agricultural workers. A jury whose selection took one and one-half days brought in a verdict of "not guilty" for John Melgar and A.

not guilty for John Melgar and his wife, of Espinosa and could not agree on a guilty verdict for Robert and James Melgar - after five hours of deliberation.

The militant atmosphere which had prevailed at the court room during the first trial was intensified during this trial by the presence of 100 hunger marchers who had just

100 farmer interviewers who had just returned from Sacramento. The jurors were clearly affected by the spirit of the strikers. One prospective jurywoman said in response to a question by the attorney that she wished that the small farmers would have such a good union as the strikers have so that they could sell their fruits and get something for their labor.

Donald Bingham, one of the first arrested during this strike and now out on \$5,000 bail furnished by the International Labor Defense, will go on trial in Fairfield on Jan. 19.

# Peonage Holds Thousands of Workers and Farmers in New Slavery

## **Established by Southern White Ruling Class to Perpetuate Slave Conditions for Negroes**

## Flood and Drought/Exposed Serfdom; Peonage on Government Job

For instance, during and after the Bald Knob and Searcy, Arkansas, and World War, there was a considerable migration of Negroes from the South as well as in St. Francis County.

installment from the new book, "Forced Labor in the United States," by Walter Wilson. In their efforts to stop forced labor, planters and businessmen's posses halted trains and dragged Negroes from them, dispersed crowds of Negroes waiting for trains to take them North, lynched the discontented, and fined and arrested labor agents who dared hire Negroes. Introduction by Theo- Association.

**OF PEONAGE.**

In 1928 Thelma Duncan, a North Carolina school teacher, reported to the National Conference of Negroes in St. Louis, Kansas City, Cleveland and Pittsburgh were declared to be involved.

Just as intolerable as the peonage that binds Negroes in the South is the peonage to which Mexicans are

**CATASTROPHES EXPOSE  
PEONAGE**

**New York**

\$1. **TELEGRAM**

**IN** addition to the use of convicts, vestigator of peonage, apparently, there are other systems of forced labor in the United States. The most such catastrophes usually bring to light peonage involving as light peonage cases by the wholesale. It does many thousands of workers. In 1927, for example, the Mississippi River flooded a vast territory including farmers, chiefly Negroes. It is especially prevalent in the South where planters and employers developed it as a substitute for the kind of slavery which was abolished with the Civil War. Indeed, peonage is nothing more than a concomitant of the tenant farming system, which was deliberately and carefully established by the southern ruling class to fear they might escape.

A big "act of God" is a better instrument than the Department of Justice, for it does much of the work in the industries in the Southwest—projects in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, the Imperial Valley in southern California, big ranches, railroad construction, irrigation jobs—has been done by Mexican workers slaving under peonage. Thousands of Mexican forced laborers have toiled in the beet fields of Colorado, Kansas and other states, and have carried on struggles against their slavery, led by the Agricultural Workers Industrial Union.

Read tomorrow's Daily Worker for

In the encampments the croppers, renters, and laborers were closely watched by guardsmen. No one could leave the camp without a permit. In the fourth installment from the sensational new book, "Forced Labor in the United States", it will tell of the forced labor existing in the colonies of United States imperialism, of ex-  
shot, some while trying to escape exploitation by Firestone, Mellon, Guggenheim, Morgan and other American  
capitalists into large building and industrial enterprises.

The term "peonage" is now generally applied in the United States to any method by which a person is physically or legally held in involuntary servitude, with the exception, of course, of convict labor.

conscripted into levee building and work for private employers on other jobs without pay. When the flood receded, the Red Cross, the National Guard, and the overseers from various plantations staged a "round-up" in Florida. He cited many cases of the reluctant victims, herded then Negroe being sold to turpentine com-

A peon thus held in debt slavery dares not attempt to leave his employment. If he is foolhardy enough to escape, a man-hunt is organized. Even the "law" takes an active part in these modern hunts for runaway slaves. Sheriffs have frequently been known to cross state lines in order to bring back escaped peons. And when the peons try to leave in large numbers they are held by mass terrorism.

of the reluctant victims, herded them into barges and returned them to companies at from \$50 to \$150 each. In March, 1930, James E. Piggott, prominent Washington Parish, Louisiana planter, pleaded guilty of holding Negro workers in peonage. Piggott told Federal Judge Borah that southern states bordering the Mississippi river. "I handled Negroes in the same way every one else in the South does." He admitted that on several occasions his croppers escaped into terrible conditions existed especially in Mississippi and that Louisiana officials went after them and brought them back without any sort of specific locations were given around

Another typical case in Louisiana occurred in 1931. J. M. McLemore of Coushatta was charged with peonage practices. The investigator disclosed that McLemore habitually carried a pistol with which to shoot any one attempting to escape.

#### PEONAGE ON GOVERNMENT JOB

One of the most recent exposes of peonage involved work done for the United States government. In December, 1931, it was discovered that the War Department was using compulsory labor on levee work under its supervision along the Mississippi River. Gross brutality was charged, including the flogging and beating of Negro workers with leather straps, clubs and pistol butts, for not doing enough work or for minor infraction of camp rules. Men were forced to work 12 to 18 hours a day. The pay rate was 75 cent to \$2 a day for skilled labor. For unskilled it was much less. Trading in the commissary was compulsory and charges for "stuff" were exorbitant. There was an arbitrary deduction of \$4.50 a week from each man's pay for commissary supplies, whether the supplies were purchased or not. Thirty contractors with offices in New Or-

#### Negro Child Labor on Slave Farms



This Negro boy tilling tomatoes with a mule and shovel-plow in Florence, S. C., is one of the thousands of Negro children, who, together with their parents, are kept in peonage by the white plantation owners.

Copyright by John L. Spivak, author of "Georgia Nigger."

#### Red Radicals In Rural Regions

sia during more than a decade has not been handled the martial law with kindness and able to subdue the agrarian districts com-largely through fraternizing with the mu-  
colonial farmers rendered such valiant and nearly so confident or so complimentary ofing the situation General Tinley gives it as  
efficient service in the throwing off of the urban labor despite the fact that it has re-his opinion that paid agitators of Com-  
British yoke it has been traditional to refersisted most successfully all efforts of the munism are responsible for the beating and  
to our agricultural population of the bul-radicals to bore within its organization threatened lynching of Judge Bradley as  
wark of our democratic republic. Even in the Small wonder, then, that we are shocked by well as for the riots that followed efforts  
face of the fact that our agriculturists havethe violent resistance to law and lawful pro-of court officers to foreclose on farms.  
frequently gone rainbow chasing after Pop-cesses in agricultural regions of the middle. But this is no tribute to the farmers when  
ulism, greenbackism, bimetalism, Farmer-west. Small doubt also that the gestures of one considers how desperately Foster and  
laboritism, if we may coin the word, and violent revolution coming first from the other Communist leaders fought without  
other isms, we still point to the rural re-rural residents have turned our precon-result to gain a foothold in the labor organ-  
gions as the invincible defense of law and ceived notions and ideas all topsy turvy. ization. General Tinley blames radical in-  
order, organized, representative and rational. Brig. Gen. Mat A. Tinley, in charge of spiration for the effort of the Farmers' government.  
*General Tinley* the troops in the rebellious Iowa districts, Holiday Association to put itself above law

In justification of our viewpoint we have has the widest sort of personal acquaintance and order and co-operation with govern-  
pointed to the fact that Communism in Rus-throughout the disturbed regions. He has mental agencies seeking a solution of ag-

riculture's distressing problem. But he does not exempt the farmers themselvs from blame.

As badly as the tillers of the soil have suffered from farm product prices that have brought bankruptcy upon them, their suffering has been no worse than the millions of unemployed in the cities, and not even so bad. The farmers at least have had food to eat and fuel to keep them warm during the cold months. They have also had shelter. Against the possession of those necessities millions of unemployed city dwellers have had nothing except what came to them through the necessarily meager ministrations of charity.

If the case of the farmers against payments on mortgages and threatened foreclosures was directed solely against financially powerful banks, insurance companies or other loan agencies, the resistance to all legal handling of the matter might be understandable, if not defensible. But it so happens that a large part of the money lent to the farmers represents the investments of widows and covers their whole inheritances. Others interested through the big loan agencies have all their earthly possessions at stake. They demand just as much consideration and protection as the heavily indebted farmers.

Now that they have resorted to violence, General Tinley says very plainly yet forcible, the farmers must be made to understand that they have not suffered any more than other elements of the people, if as much. As a friend of the farmers, General Tinley says they have got to listen to reason and to understand right now that as much, if not more, is being done for them as for any or all of the other depression sufferers. When the farmers cast out radical agitators just as the union labor organization did, and when they return to common sense co-operation with officials and other elements of the people they will be better off mentally, morally, physically and financially.

Rebelious defiance to the processes of law, order and organized government will only make a bad matter that much worse.

Agriculture-1933

Laboe Conditions.

## Farmers Prevent Alverson Property Seizure

*2-2-33*  
Mortgage Holder's Effort  
~~To Remove Machinery,~~  
Livestock Is Forestalled

MONTICELLO, ILL., Feb. 1.—(P)—Farmer neighbors of C. D. Brady came to his rescue again today, preventing the seizure of machinery and livestock mortgaged for \$2,750 which sold for \$4.90 at a foreclosure auction yesterday.

Six neighbors stopped an attempt by a constable to haul away by truck the property on which W. A. Doss, of Monticello, holds a chattel mortgage. When they appeared at the Brady farm near Ivesdale, in Champaign County, Constable Robert Wrench agreed to leave the equipment and animals.

Doss claimed that yesterday's sale was illegal in that hundreds of Brady's friends prevented competitive bids, ejected his representative and returned the chattels to the farmer after sales at from two to 27 cents.

"It was a conspiracy to commit fraud," said Doss, who said he had obtained a writ of replevin and planned to seize the property and hold it at a nearby farm until its ownership had been decided by court action.

Doss said he sent the following telegram to Gov. Henry Horner:

"If the bidders are successful in settling debts in this manner, we are face to face with anarchy. It is simply a question of whose claim is strongest."

Meanwhile in Iowa, the State Legislature working in the heart of the mortgage depressed farm belt, was caught in a disagreement between Senate and House. In a three-hour session, the Senate voted unanimously for a mortgage arbitration bill which was considered less drastic than the House measure.

The House measure amounts virtually to a mortgage moratorium until March 1, 1935. The Senate bill on the other hand, provides arbitration must be resorted to before a mortgage foreclosure suit can be filed.

A 10-cent sale developed at Aurora, Neb., where 800 farmers came to the W. C. Brock farm and bid in farm equipment on which the defunct Fidelity State Bank, of Aurora, had a chattel mortgage, for 10 cents an implement. The property was returned to Brock.

ATLANTA, Feb. 1.—(P)—Gov. Eugene Talmadge announced today that the Georgia Real Estate Loan Associa-

Illinois.

tion, an organization of 15 of the largest life insurance companies doing business in the State, had declared a moratorium on all Georgia farm mortgages, except in cases of abandonment.

Agriculture-1933

6  
Labor Conditions.

Iowa

~~Iowa Farmers~~

~~Mob Mortgagees~~

~~1-5-33~~  
~~Foreclosure Sale Halted~~

~~As Agent For Insurance~~  
~~Company Is Threatened~~

again to dispose of the property but in vain.

Some of the tax sales have been signals for meetings of farmers to draft resolutions urging heavy tax reductions. Yesterday boards of supervisors in Montgomery, Chickasaw, and Benton Counties were visited by farm delegations urging such reductions and cuts in Government expenses.

YORK, S. C. Enquirer

Friday, January 13, 1933

The fight of Iowa farmers against foreclosure sales, one of which last week almost ended in the lynching of

LE MARS, IOWA, Jan. 11 (AP)—Farmance company foreclosing a mortgage, unrest, smouldering for months in the Iowa corn belt flamed anew today with spreading to other states, notably threats to lynch a representative of a Wisconsin. The farmers will try to mortgage holder and forcible detention have the legislature of Iowa pass laws of a jurist who sought to summon aid by the terms of which foreclosure

The demonstration occurred at a fore-sales will be delayed until conditions closure sale when Herbert S. Martin, attorney for the New York Life Insurance Company, submitted a sealed bid

of \$10,000 for the John A. Johnson farm \$3,000 less than the amount of the mortgage held by his company.

The farmers, numbering between 500 and 800, dragged him from the court house steps. Brandishing a rope they threatened hanging tar and feathers, and riding him out of town on a rail.

Finally released, Martin wired officials of his company asking permission to raise the bid. He ended his wire with a plea to "rush answer, my neck at risk."

A few hours later he received a wire permitting him to increase his bid the \$3,000 and after consumation of the sale officials agreed to postpone any further mortgage sales for one month.

Martin and Sheriff R. E. Rippey were slapped and mauled by the angry farmers. Judge C. W. Pitts, who attempted to summon aid, was seized by the crowd and prevented from using a telephone.

During the disturbance farmers kept pouring into the town and joining the crowd at the court house. With the foreclosure sale stopped, they proceeded to the mayor's office seeking a key to the Pew Implement Company, where a foreclosed tractor, once the property of Joe Sokolosky, was stored.

Unable to locate the key, the farmers proceeded to the company warehouse, but quieted and disbanded at the best of Sheriff Rippey before gaining entrance.

The demonstration today climaxed a general movement against forced sales of farm property. In many counties sales for delinquent taxes have been postponed because of failure to obtain bids on the property.

The lack of bids generally resulted from agreements among those attending not to make offers for the property. The tax sales were to have been held in December, but were postponed for a month. In the last few days, attempts have been made by county treasurers

Agriculture - 1933  
Labor Conditions.

# Trying to Head Off the Farmers' Movement

~~Hunger worker~~  
~~New York~~  
As the farmers' fight against sheriffs' sales spreads from Northwestern Iowa through other parts of the state, and into Nebraska, and similar action is carried on in Wisconsin and other farm states, the authorities in their alarm are compelled to resort to all sorts of tricks to try to stem the tide. Governor Clyde Herring of Iowa, according to press dispatches has issued a proclamation asking holders of realty or personal property mortgages to refrain from foreclosing until legislative bodies have had time "to enact laws meeting the economic emergency."

This is a gesture to try to dupe the farmers so they will relax their vigilance against the mortgage sharks—the bankers, the insurance companies, the farm machinery trust. It is quite clear that the resurgence of the farmers' fight against foreclosures, against low prices for their products has advanced to a stage where there is widespread mass defiance of the state authorities. The growing unity of the workers in the towns and cities with the farmers in the country in the fight for immediate emergency relief, for poor farmers, against forced collections of rents and debts; and for relief and unemployment insurance for workers shows that the struggle is reaching a higher political stage. It is this fact that has compelled such gestures as that of Governor Herring of Iowa. Such "proclamations" are also a part of the attempt to head off the preparations that are being carried out for mighty mass demonstrations throughout the country on inauguration day, March 4th, to insist that congress at once take up and act upon the demands of the National Hunger Marchers.

All such manouvers should be met with greater demonstrations and more relentless struggle against hunger. Such united action can compel the ruling class and their governments—federal, state and local—to come through with relief NOW!

**LOUISVILLE, KY.  
TIMES**

**JAN 5 1933**

## IN IOWA, REBELLION

Yesterday news from Iowa was that there were no bidders at a contemplated auction of property whose owners were delinquent as to taxes.

Today's news from Iowa is of a threat to lynch a representative of a mortgage holder who submitted a sealed bid, at figures less than the amount of the mortgage, it developed subsequently.

And the farm sold, finally, to the life insurance company which held the mortgage, for the amount of the loan.

That it is impossible to enforce laws which are not upheld by public opinion is a major tenet of opponents of certain regulatory laws. Iowa's idea is evidently, that it is impossible to enforce laws affecting rights in property, if enough persons object.

Failure to bid at tax sales probably could not be proved illegal, even by resort to boycott laws, and even if combination were admitted.

Lynching, or manhandling, the agent of the holder

of a mortgage is something different. Yet the indications are that some sort of relief legislation may result from the movement.

The nerves of Iowa farmers are frayed. Iowa was, when farming had not been exploited by high protective tariff grafters to the extent that it has been exploited during Normalcy, an exceptionally prosperous, and almost wholly agrarian, State. It had in service a greater number of automobiles in proportion to population than any manufacturing State.

Iowa farmers are up in arms, figuratively of course, for literally they are unarmed.

A deplorable result of class legislation which has resulted in far greater depression of farm products and farm land, prices than is explainable by the general depression of business.

The farmer still pays as much interest as he paid when hogs sold for \$17 per hundred. And he is paying on loans which, in many instances, were negotiated when sugar retailed at thirty-two cents a pound, a price that was—like most other prices—disproportionately high when hogs were \$17. He still pays for wire fencing, and other iron derivatives, prices out of proportion to prices of what he sells.

## 'WAR' ON FORECLOSURE SPREADS IN MIDWEST

1-10-33

*Answers*  
Farmers Will Seek Legisla-  
tive Action to Halt  
Forced Sales.

Judge Ernest Miller postponed hearing the application for receivership made by William King until Friday when the latter failed to appear. The demonstration was orderly.

LOGAN, Iowa, Jan. 9.—(AP)—The farmers' fight against sheriffs' sales spread to other communities in Iowa and Wisconsin today.

Meanwhile, members of the Farmers Defense Council at Le Mars, Iowa—scene of last week's disorder in which farmers halted a foreclosure sale with threats to an insurance company attorney and a district judge—were organizing an expedition to Des Moines to exert their influence on the state legislature which convened today.

About 100 declared intention of making the trip with the avowed purpose of urging legislation which would deprive courts of jurisdiction for a period of several months in cases involving money judgments.

Traveling by truck, they will stop first at Sioux City tomorrow, leaders said, to participate in a protest against a foreclosure sale there. Sioux City authorities said they expected no demonstration, however.

Approximately 700 farmers gathered here and succeeded in preventing the scheduled sale of the A. H. Cleaver

Iowa

**OSWEGO, N. Y.  
PALLADIUM-TIMES**

**JAN 6 - 1933**

### VIOLENCE INEFFECTIVE

Iowa becomes again a center for new sensationalism when a group of farmers threaten to lynch a representative of a mortgage holder on an Iowa farm, and forcibly detain a judge who sought to summon aid. News despatches indicate that between 500 and 800 farmers gathered and dragged the attorney for a New York life insurance company from the courthouse steps, showing him meanwhile, a rope, and threatening death by violence unless he raised the bid for the property for which he had bid \$3,000 less than the face of the mortgage. The bid was increased, later but the mob mauled and slapped the Sheriff and kept the judge from using a telephone.

It was the same group of farmers who sought to use force to compel purchasers of their farm products to pay higher prices, and at the same time detained from markets, other farmers who were willing to sell their goods for prevailing prices.

There is no question but farmers are in a serious condition, but they are not as badly off as are millions of unemployed men in the country who have no farm and no means of raising food products. The entire situation is serious, but violence does not in the slightest make the circumstances any better or improve any of the conditions. Farms are like other realty, an asset to be used in times of need, as security for loans. How many loans will the insurance company be willing to make in Iowa in the future? There was a time not so long ago when Iowa farm lands were selling at hundreds of dollars an acre and there was little if any difficulty in selling. Now farm lands anywhere like idle factory and office buildings, are a drug on the market. Realty for the time being, has ceased to be

# IOWA TROOPS RULE FARM RIOT AREAS; MOB BLOCKS A SALE

*Juries*

Martial Law Is Declared in  
Plymouth County, Where Judge  
Was Abducted and Beaten.

*4-29-33*

CROWD ROUTS DEPUTIES

*New York*

Officers Are Forced to Stop  
Denison Foreclosure and Gov-  
ernor Sends Militia There.

COURTS SPLIT ON NEW LAW

State Act Aimed to Help Debtors  
Is Upheld and Held Unconstitu-  
tional in Decisions.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

LEMARS, Iowa, April 28.—Mar-had well nigh ruined farmers in  
ial law was established here todaythis section before the low prices  
under a proclamation by Governor of farm products in the last year or  
Clyde Herring and the arrival oftwo added to their troubles.

250 National Guardsman as a re- Meanwhile Judge Bradley, suffer-  
sult of the attack yesterday on Dis-ing only slight effects of the man-  
trict Court Judge C. C. Bradley by handling by the mob, presided over  
farmers who demanded that he re-a routine court session. He said  
fuse to sign foreclosure papers. he had not recognized any of those

Other State troopers were or-who seized him, although he had  
dered to Denison, Iowa, sixty miles been on the district bench for  
from Sioux City, after 800 farmers many years.

had attacked six State agents, a The judge also defended Sheriff  
Sheriff and forty special deputies R. E. Rippey, who was referred to  
when they attempted to conduct a by Governor Herring as "a weak

foreclosure sale on J. F. Fields's

farm.

The crowd stopped the sale after

a fight in which many were slightly

injured.

Governor Herring's martial-law  
order covered all Plymouth County.

Terming the attack on Judge  
Bradley "a vicious and criminal  
conspiracy and assault upon a  
judge while in discharge of his of-  
ficial duties, endangering his life  
and threatening a complete break-  
down of all law and order, he au-  
thorized the troops to work beyond  
the borders of the county if neces-

sary.

"The public peace and good order of Colonel Golden C. Hollar. The  
will be preserved upon all occasions men carried full field equipment  
and throughout the county, and no and are quartered for the time be-  
interference will be permitted within in the armory. They experi-  
officers and men in the discharge nced no difficulty in taking pos-  
of the duties under this order," the session of the town and were, in  
proclamation read. fact, welcomed warmly by most of  
the citizens.

## Doubts Crowd All Farmers.

The Governor declared he believed Sioux City hoodlums were in  
the crowd that attacked the judge. He urged the newspapers not to  
be too quick in describing the assailants as all farmers. Talk of  
"Red" agitators was also heard.

In Lemars rumors of outside help  
for the farmers was not taken se-  
riously. Persons who saw a hun-  
dred or more men sweep into the  
court room of Judge Bradley while  
court was in session, who saw the  
jurist slapped and choked and the judge. *Juries*

Continued from Page One.

noon a resolution was passed calling on the Governor and all Iowa  
executive officers to "prosecute  
and punish the perpetrators of all  
such outrages as the attack on

By The Associated Press.  
DES MOINES, April 28.—Constitu-  
tionality of Iowa's emergency  
debtor's relief law was both upheld  
and denied by district courts today.  
District Judge A. E. Barker in a  
ruling at Muscatine, upheld the  
constitutionality of the law passed  
by the recent Iowa General Assem-  
bly, but earlier in the day Judge  
W. E. Dingwell, at Winterset, had  
held the same law unconstitutional  
in several mortgage foreclosure  
actions brought before the Madison  
County District Court.

The law provides for continuance  
of all mortgage foreclosure actions  
until March 1, 1935, on request to  
the court and also gives the court  
custody of the property during the  
period of continuance with author-  
ity to direct the application of  
rents, profits and income.

In upholding the constitutionality  
of the law Judge Barker denied a  
petition for foreclosure of a Musca-  
tine store building and ordered the  
defendants to turn over rents of the  
building to the Clerk of the District  
Court during the continuance.

Judge Dingwell, on the other  
hand, declared the law unconstitu-  
tional on the ground that it impairs  
the obligations of a contract. His  
ruling was in answer to nine applica-  
tions for foreclosure filed during  
the February term of his court.

The rulings involve points under  
discussion in the Plymouth County  
District Court yesterday when Judge  
C. C. Bradley was taken from the

farm-holiday meeting Wednesday

bench by a mob and threatened

with lynching.

Following the passage of the  
debtor's relief act by the recent

Assembly, a group of Iowa jurists  
met in Des Moines to discuss the

measure. The district judges at

that time generally favored an atti-  
tude of cooperation in order to  
make the law effective for the relief

of debtors.

Sheriff will be shunted into inac-

tivity, since the Governor ordered

the Guardsmen here without a re-

quest from the Sheriff. Courts-

martial may even be set up, al-

though this is not certain yet.

# IOWA TROOPS RULE FARM RIOT AREAS

Agriculture - 1933

Labor Condition.

## HEARING ON 5

### CROPPERS WED.

~~Daily Worker~~  
Must Intensify Mass  
Protests 33

#### BULLETIN.

PINEVILLE, Ky., Jan. 9. — Five hundred members of the National Miners Union in south-eastern Kentucky have adopted a protest resolution to Gov. B. M. Miller, Montgomery, Ala., against the outrageous landlord-police attacks on Negro croppers and exploited farmers in Tallapoosa County, Ala.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 9.— Attorney Frank B. Iwan of Birmingham, engaged by the International Labor Defense, today refused to agree to the request of the Prosecutor of Tallapoosa County to waive preliminary hearings in the cases of the five Negro croppers still held in jail. The I.L.D. attorney announced he would insist on the hearing being held this Wednesday, as scheduled. The five croppers are Judson Simpson, Ned Cobb, Sam Moss, Clinton Moss, and Alfred White.

#### Others Released.

Other members of the Share Croppers Union who were arrested for defending themselves against the savage armed attack of the landlord-police lynch gangs on December 19 have been released as a result of the mass protests which have poured into the Alabama officials from all parts of the country. The exposure by the I.L.D. of the murder of Cliff James and Milo Bentley forced the release of three croppers who were held in the same jail with James and Bentley.

#### Continue Protests.

The southern district of the I.L.D. urges workers and all others opposed to lynching and national oppression of the Negroes to continue their protests against the landlord-police terror and to demand the immediate unconditional release of the five croppers still held in jail.

Kentucky

Agriculture-1933  
6  
Labor Conditions.

Minnesota

# 1,000 MEN PREVENT FARM FORECLOSURE

*Advertiser*  
Minnesota Mob Halts Sheriff's Sale By Creating Confusion.

attorney sought to foreclose a mortgage near Pilger, Neb., in the presence of 1,000 men who dispersed after the farmer gave a check for \$25 in settlement. The attorney and a deputy sheriff were prevented from driving their cars.

Fifty men who went to a farm near Le Mars, Iowa, compelled the owner to relinquish notes given by a tenant. Another property owner near Le Mars made a settlement with a tenant after a group of farmers visited her.

WILLMAR, MINN., Jan. 21.—(P)—One thousand farmers who thronged the courthouse left today believing they had prevented foreclosure of a mortgage on land tilled by its occupant 57 years, but whether they had done so was uncertain tonight.

While the sheriff contended he heard no bids after reading the notice of foreclosure on the farm of Soren Hanson, the financial correspondent for the insurance company holding the \$5,772 lien said he regarded the sale as completed.

Emil Aspaas, Willmar, was authorized to place the bid for the insurance company but, as the sheriff concluded reading the public notice, several in the crowd grabbed the representative to prevent him entering a bid.

H. F. Williams, of Minneapolis, representing the insurance company, said the sheriff had no legal right to announce postponement of the sale for two weeks as he did.

"Just as I finished reading the notice," Sheriff Paul E. Anderson said, "a bunch grabbed Aspaas and wouldn't let him put in a bid. When I couldn't get a bid, I telephoned Williams and asked him what I should do. He said get the sale closed. By the time I got back I couldn't find Aspaas and no bid had been entered. So I announced postponement."

Following announcement of postponement, John Bosch, Atwater, president of the Minneapolis Farmers Holiday Association, called a meeting of the crowd.

"It's time that Congress should give us farmers relief," Bosch said, "and if we organize we can get the right kind of legislation so that they (mortgage holders) won't take our farms away. It's a shame a man can't keep his farm after living on it 57 years."

Williams asserted his company had been "more than lenient" with Hanson, who owns a 160 acre farm. Hanson gave the mortgage in 1925.

"We have carried Hanson," Williams said. "We offered to defer foreclosure until 1934 if he would give us a chattel mortgage on part of his crop, but he has refused to do so."

The incident here was another among acts by groups of farmers in several Mid-West States to prevent disposses-sion due to failure to meet obligations. Legislation pending in several States and in Congress is aimed at the same result. Calls for a rope were heard when ar-

Agriculture-1933

Labor Conditions

Pennsylvania

UNITED ACTION SAVED THIS HOME FOR A SMALL FARMER



This is the farm of John Henzel, in Bucks County, Pa., where the farmers won an outstanding victory over the financiers, who are using the present depressed farm prices as a means of taking farms from the owners.

Henzel owed \$1,800 borrowed when farm prices were twice the present rate. He has several children and this farm was their only means of support.

When the sheriff came to sell the Henzel horses, cows, machinery,

etc., the members of the United Farmers Protective Assn. insisted they should do all the bidding. They bought three horses for 14¢, a bull for a nickel — everything on the farm for \$1.18. Then they gave Henzel a 99-year lease for \$1

Agriculture - 1953

Labor Conditions.

## FREE CROPPERS IS NORFOLK CALL

NORFOLK, Va., Jan. 16.—Three hundred Negro and white workers packed the Odd Fellows Hall on Church St. last Wednesday night in a militant demonstration for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys and against the police terror raging in Alabama and this city.

### Dairyman New York City Demand Croppers' Release.

Resolutions were unanimously adopted demanding the release of Joe Benson, Roy Rudd and other workers arrested here during the rent strike of 1,000 Negro workers. Resolutions also were sent to Governor B. M. Miller, Montgomery, Ala., demanding the release of the Scottsboro boys, and of the Negro croppers held in prison in connection with the Battle of Reeltown, Dec. 19, when Negro croppers and exploited farmers defended themselves against the landlord-police lynch gangs.

South Carolina

Agriculture-1933

Tennessee

### Labor Conditions.

#### Who Will Buy a Liability?

The sale of tax delinquent property in Iowa was advertised for the other day at a number of points in the state. In several places no attention was paid to the advertisements. But at one point about 500 farmers turned out. They were attired in overalls and they proclaimed with determination that carried something of a threat that: "There ain't going to be any bidders. And there was none.

At all of the places where the sales were to have been conducted postponements were ordered. But it appears reasonable to assume that the county authorities will have no more success in disposing of the farms and other delinquent property on the postponed date than they had at the original sale offering. The delinquents will be equally determined to prevail on any prospective bidders not to make an offering and there will hardly be any greater inducements a couple of weeks from now than there are now.

It is one thing to sell the farms and another thing to evict the owners. Even if eviction should not be resisted by the organized agriculturists, the ones turned out would be made charges on the county or the state. They cannot be given jobs under existing conditions and the state cannot permit them to starve or to be without some shelter. And this brings us to the fact that there is a fundamental humanity which takes precedence over strict justice in crises like the present.

But the danger of forcible resistance to dispossession should not be the chief obstacle to the success of the tax sales. As conditions now are the financial income derivable from rural and many forms of urban property is not sufficient to pay the taxes. Under the heavy tax load upon real estate and the light income being received therefrom many farms and a lot of city property are liabilities rather than assets. And who wants to buy any more liabilities, even if they can be purchased cheap?

Agriculture - 1933

Improvement of.

# NEGROES' FARMS IN MACON INSPECTED

*Advertiser*  
Exceptional Progress Shown  
By Mt. Zion Community's  
Agriculturists

9-11-33

An inspection tour to the homes and farms of five Macon County negro farmers was made by 100 farm people and educators whom the county agents directed through the Mt. Zion Community Saturday morning. Mt. Zion Community is approximately 10 miles from Tuskegee Institute.

*Montgomery Advertiser*  
At the first stop, the home of Grant Moss, the group saw the results of corn following Austrian peas. To demonstrate this further, the group was taken to plots where no soil improvement crops had grown. The difference in growth was sufficient to establish the value of soil building plants. A young orchard was inspected on this farm, as well as a home-made brooder house that was proving serviceable, although inexpensive. The home, a new one, was inspected where pleasing effects in re-conditioning old furniture, rug making, curtain stenciling and the injecting of color into the farm home were demonstrated.

The Walter Mahone home was next on the schedule. Aside from a trip through the fields, the group became interested in the smokehouse which contained large quantities of meat, lard, and syrup. The big pile of wood cut for Winter use attracted attention. The cutting and storing of the home supply of wood is an important extension practice among negro farmers.

At the Oscar Tarver home, the group found a splendid example of how a family might improve its home by making the best of what they had. Not being able to build a house, the Tarvers had dismantled an old organ and made a settee from it. The old-fashioned high wooden beds had been cut down and rearranged. Neat dressing tables had been made from two old wash stands.

From this farm the group passed on to the home of Mary Simpson. They inspected her small, but neat sanitary dairy house, her year-round garden and well kept yards and grounds. In this home are outstanding improvements both for beauty and convenience. The kitchen has two interesting features; one a modern pantry, and the other a breakfast table that folds up against the wall. When folded up this table conceals shelf compartments for the various articles for serving a quick meal.

The J. W. Austin farm, last on the schedule, was perhaps the finest example of soil improvement and crop production. In addition, Austin's herd of cows, pigs; his garden, orchard and wood pile are an encouragement to any negro far-

Alabama

mer.

Inspection tours of this kind serve many purposes. They give other farmers an opportunity to see what their more progressive neighbors are doing, and how they do it; and they also give educated groups a chance to see the benefits of extension teachings among a still very needy class of people.

Opelika, Ala. News  
October 17, 1933

## Negro Tenant Grows 20 Bales Of Cotton On 13 Acres Land

By County Agent Bedingfield

L. A. Atkins, a colored tenant of W. N. Ingram at Marvyn, planted 20 acres of cotton this year, 7 of which he destroyed in the cotton "plow up" campaign just ended. From the remaining 13 acres, Atkins has already gathered 20 bales, or a total of 9,845 pounds of lint and feels that there is enough unpicked cotton in the field to make out the 10,000 pounds of lint, giving him a total of 20, 500 pound bales from the 13 acres.

It is interesting to note that the above yield is more than 5 times the average production for the county. How did Atkins produce such a heavy yield? Here is the story:

"Last fall", said Atkins, "I planted Austrian winter peas and turned them under early this spring. Three weeks after turning the peas I planted the cotton, fertilizing with 400 pounds of acid phosphate and 50 pounds of Muriate per acre. No soda or sulphate was used either under the cotton or as a side dressing because the peas furnished all the nitrogen that was needed for the crop. Of course the cotton was well cultivated."

What an interesting story. What a simple, but profitable plan. Yet too few of our farmers realize the true value of growing their nitrogen at home.

*Acquisition*

Improvement of

Bunnell, Fla., Tribune  
March 22, 1934

## NEGRO FARMER HAS FINE POTATO CROP

Paul Cooler, negro, whose farm is located 3 miles west of Bunnell and adjoining the Mack place, has dug an excellent crop of potatoes this season. He came into The Tribune office today and exhibited a half-bushel basket of as fine tubers as one could wish to see—and these from just two hills, he said.

Cooler had 14 acres planted to potatoes and obtained an average yield of 40 barrels per acre. His crop was marketed through H. Clegg, broker, and Cooler received from \$3.50 to \$5 a barrel for his crop.

Last year Cooler planted cotton after his potatoes and made a profit, and he will again plant the fleecy staple. And in addition, he will plant a fall crop of potatoes and harvest them in December—3 crops a year and a profit on each.

St. Augustine, Fla., Record  
March 21, 1934

That not a negro could be found in Miami's colored section this past week, who was willing to pick tomatoes at from \$2.50 to \$3 a day, is chronicled in the Miami Herald. As a result it was expected trucks would be sent to Georgia in search of 50 negroes to pick tomatoes on a 700-acre farm near Everglades City. The Herald goes on to say that the Civil Works Administration is endeavoring to cooperate with farmers; that although 4,000 negroes are registered with the CWA, none are now being employed by the board.

All of which reminds us that before long the Hastings area will be in the throes of potato digging, and negro labor will be in demand. It is to be hoped that St. Johns County negroes will be on the job, and show a disposition to work and earn. The farmers want the labor, and surely the negroes need the work and the money; or if they do not happen to need the funds just now, they are reminded there is a long, lean summer ahead for which relief plans are uncertain.

Brooksville, Fla., Journal  
May 24, 1934

## NEGRO SELLS CATTLE

Jasper, May 22.—One hundred and fifty head of beef cattle were recently sold here at \$10 a head by William Roux, Negro farmer, and he has 350 more head to sell, according to N. H. Bennett, Negro farm agent. Roux owns 1,000 acres of land, and conducts a practical live-at-home program the year round, Bennett reports.

*Agriculture-19  
Improvement of*

*General*

# **PUSH DRIVE FOR BUREAU TO AID NEGRO FARMERS**

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 20.—To further his plan to establish a special bureau in the Department of Agriculture for Negro farmers of the United States, Representative Fred Hildebrandt (Democrat) of South Dakota, held a joint conference with agricultural officials here last week.

"There are 3,500,000 Negroes living in rural areas in this country," Hildebrandt said. "Most of them are farmers. I believe we should have a special bureau for them, headed by a competent Negro."

The South Dakota representative is said to have become interested in the plight of the Negro farmer through W. F. Reden, former principal of an agricultural high school in Mississippi for 19 years.

Mr. Reden, in a recent letter to The Pittsburgh Courier, wrote "Over fourteen per cent of the United States farming population are Negroes. They own and cultivate more than 37,000,000 acres of land with buildings and equipment valued higher than \$1,000,000,000.

"When we compare the money allotted to white A. & M. colleges with that given to Negro A. & M. Colleges, and the differences in salaries paid to white and Negro county agents, it is time that we try to do something for our group which received no consideration from the former Federal Farm Board. If there is a class of people in the United States that need assistance, it is the Negro tenant cotton farmer."

Farming interests all over the country are anxiously awaiting the outcome of Representative Hildebrandt's efforts to have a special bureau created in the Department of Agriculture for Negro farmers.

Agriculture - 1933  
Improvement of.

Georgia

Macon, Ga. News  
Wednesday, January 25, 1933

## Farm Is Success For Negro Hancock's Negroes Map Farm Program Using 'Live At Home' Plan

SPARTA, Ga., Jan. 25.—The largest gathering of Negro farmers ever held in this section was assembled at the Log Cabin in the Springfield community Monday with a number of white educators present and on

By SUSAN MYRICK

A Negro farmer living in Bibb county owes no money has never will waste away and for success in borrowed any during the soap-making the increase of the community has owned his farm, pay his taxes moon is essential.

promptly and raises all the food for his family and his stock to eat. There are roses blooming profusely in the clean yard about the door of the painted wooden house. Though John M'Elmurray is the name of the painted wooden house. Though

the man who has accomplished this remarkable feat. He lives on the hills of artistic effect, they bear mute testimony to her care and her pride

in the home surroundings.

Benjamin F. Hubert, builder of the log cabin, and president of the Georgia Industrial college at Savannah, was also present.

He is a native of this country and is doing much work for the advancement of the Negro farmer in his old home community. The farming program for the year was given out at this meeting and it is thought the addresses will be of much benefit to the many Negro farmers present.

For Ella, like many others, believes that soap made on the waning moon will never waste away and for success in borrowing any during the soap-making the increase of the community has owned his farm, pay his taxes moon is essential.

such a thing as a government loan, a seed loan, a mortgage or borrow-

ing money to make a crop on.

Father of eight children, who are now grown and "gone up north," Negro and his wife appreciate their working hard from sun-up to sun-

down, satisfied with a simple life,

"When I bought this place from Mr. Calder Willingham" explained John, "he told me never to put a mortgage on it and I never have.

cannot have without borrowing What money I can't get from my

money to get them.

"We jus' don't use money," ex-

plained Ella, when asked what they raised for a money crop.

Ella interrupted to say, "Ain't no

use borrowing money. We jes' as

well suffer at one end as to suffer

at the other," which she later inter-

preted to mean "We have to pay it

aside if we borrow it and we do bet-

ter if we refrain from borrowing it."

Homely Wisdom

John raises a bale or two of cot-

ton every year to pay taxes, but back if we borrow it and we do bet-

ter if we refrain from borrowing it."

She is full of homely wisdom.

"I was raised to work," she said.

"White people raised me—Mr. John

Smith—They raised me to work and

I don't think they could have done

a better thing."

The garden looks prosperous. There

are English peas blooming (they

have already eaten the first crop of

peas), butter beans, Irish potatoes,

strawberries, and sweet potato slips,

green and flourishing. In the side

yard is a luxuriant scuppernong

vine.

"An old white gentleman gave me

that vine when it was jes' a little

bitty scion," explained Ella, who

carefully tends the fruit trees, gar-

den, chickens and cows.

There is no sugar cane planted, for

Ella explained that they didn't care

so much for syrup. She makes pre-

serves of watermelon rinds, wild

berries, scuppernong hulls and what-

ever happens to be available on the

farm.

Borrowing "Ain't no Use"

Ella was making soap when her visitors arrived. Standing under the

shade of a chinaberry tree, she

stirred the yellowish, thick mass

with a long stick and gently pushed

the chunks of fire close to the big

black pot.

"I was workin' in the field," she

explained, "but I decided I better

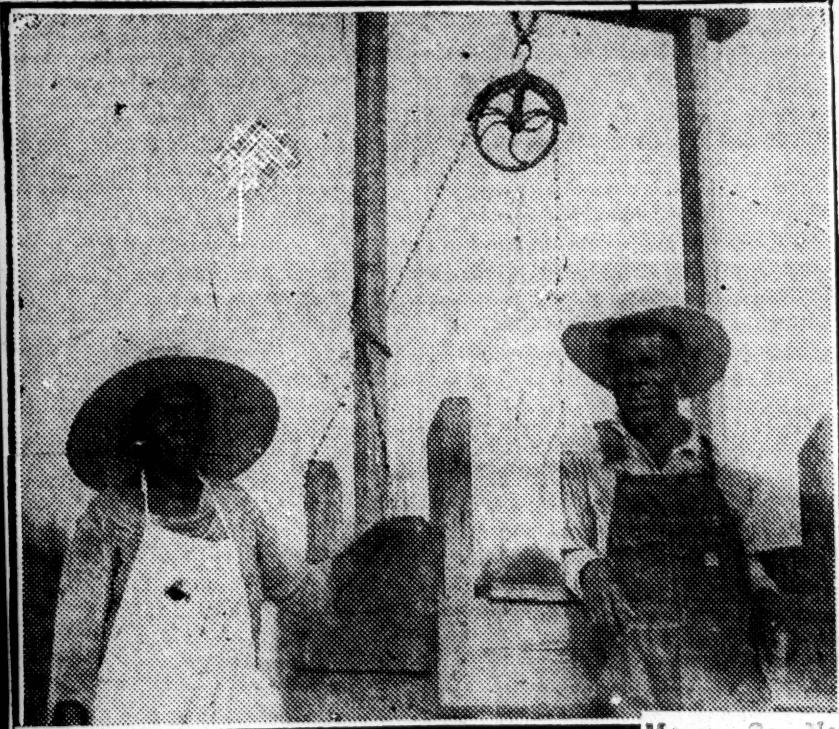
come on to the house and make my

soap. Moon don't be full every day."



JOHN AND ELLA M'ELMURRAY

# Farm Is Success For Negro Using 'Live At Home' Plan



Macon, Ga., May 21, 1933  
JOHN AND ELLA McELMURRAY

By SUSAN MYRICK

A Negro farmer living in Bibb county owes no money, has never borrowed any during the 25 years he has owned his farm, pays his taxes promptly and raises all the food for his family and his stock to eat.

John McElmurray is the name of the man who has accomplished this remarkable feat. He lives on the paved road near Lizella on the 105-acres he bought a quarter century ago and he hardly knows there is such a thing as a government loan, a seed loan, a mortgage or borrowing money to make a crop on.

Father of eight children, who are now grown and "gone up north," John lives quietly with his wife Ella, working hard from sun-up to sun-down, satisfied with a simple life, raising the things they need to eat and doing without such things as he cannot have without borrowing money to get them.

"We jus' don't use money," explained Ella, when asked what they raised for a money crop.

## Produce Is Varied

John raises a bale or two of cotton every year to pay taxes, but aside from that his farm is devoted to watermelons, pea-vine hay, corn, potatoes, ground peas, velvet beans, and other feed crops.

"I haven't bought any feed fo' my mules in 10 years," he told his visitor.

The garden looks prosperous. There are English peas blooming (the green and flourishing). In the side yard is a luxuriant scuppernong vine.

"When I bought this place from Mr. Calder Willingham" explained John, "he told me never to put a mortgage on it and I never have. What money I can't get from my farm, I jes' do without."

Ella interrupted to say, "Ain't no use borrowing money. We jes' as well suffer at one end as to suffer at the other," which she later interpreted to mean "We have to pay it back if we borrow it and we do better if we refrain from borrowing it."

## Homely Wisdom

She is full of homely wisdom.

"I was raised to work," she said. "White people raised me—Mr. John Smith—They raised me to work and I don't think they could have done a better thing."

"I stay busy all the time. The time was when I ploughed right long side of John but I don't plough now. I am getting older and we don't tend as many acres as we did when my boys were here. But there is something for me to do all the time.

"I speck I have worked harder than John has to help keep this place. When I got in from the field, I had to cook something to eat. All he thought about was getting his feet under the table."

John joined with her in the laugh and then his face sobered.

"It is hard to make anything on the farm the last few years," he said. "I reckon I couldn't have paid my taxes this year if some of my children in Chicago hadn't helped me a little. But I keep on trying and I hear the white folks say times are getting better."

"An old white gentleman gave me that vine when it was jes' a littl'bitty scion," explained Ella, who carefully tends the fruit trees, garden, chickens and cows.

There is no sugar cane planted, for

Ella explained that they didn't care so much for syrup. She makes preserves of watermelon rinds, wild ever endu-

berries, scuppernong hulls and what ever happens to be available on the farm.

Borrowing "Ain't no Use"

Ella was making soap when her visitors arrived. Standing under the shade of a chinaberry tree, she

stirred the yellowish, thick mass with a long stick and gently pushed the chunks of fire close to the big black pot.

"I was workin' in the field," she explained, "but I decided I better

come on to the house and make my soap. Moon don't be full every day."

For Ella, like many others, believes

that soap made on the waning moon

will waste away and for success in

soap-making the increase of the moon is essential.

There are roses blooming profuse-

ly in the clean yard about the door

of the painted wooden house. Though

Ella's rock gardens may not be mod-

ernistic effect, they bear mute

testimony to her care and her pride

in her home surroundings.

Small chickens, about a hundred of

them, peep-peep about the yard. A

screened side porch shows the pro-

gressiveness of the McElmurrays.

Curtains hang at the windows. The

Negro and his wife appreciate their

strawberries, and sweet potato slips.

home and realize the value of their

country if they know enough to spend a little

less than they earn," he concluded.

Those sentiments are so perfectly in accord

with what we have been preaching it is difficult not to acclaim Governor Osborn a very bright and sagacious man. On May 21 The Telegraph and News carried a story about John McElmurray and his wife Ella, (Negroes) ten miles from Macon, on a 105-acre farm. That, we thought, would serve as an inspiration to all the world, and especially to the Caucasian race, which is so prone to regard itself as smarter and different from the Negro.

This Negro went to the tax assessors to protest against his farm land being placed on the tax books at \$16 per acre—said he had always returned it at \$10, and he thought that was enough; that he had only two or three Negro cabins and a barn. Inasmuch as the tax assessors had so much farm property at as low as \$3 to \$5 per acre, they readily agreed with the Negro about \$10 being enough for his property.

A reporter's visit to his place elicited the information from him that he and his wife had raised eight children and they had gone up North; that he had owned the farm for 25 years, had never borrowed a dime on it or anything else since he got it paid for; that he had only had to buy corn once, in 1923, that he didn't owe any money, that he didn't get the government to furnish him a seed loan, that he believed in the old-fashioned way of saving his own seed, and buying nothing he could make the farm supply him—and that was about all he and his wife needed. At the time of the visit the wife was busy with a pot of soap to get the moon right.

Of course, McElmurray and his wife had no radio, did not go to picture shows, had no automobile—and they had no debts. They owned their property, and had something probably fifty million white people in this country would like to have, and could have, if they had that much sense—a home all their own, no debts, and enough food to meet all their requirements; no money, of course, but the fifty million white people have none of the first named, and no money, either.

Discount the farm all one pleases, the one who knows how and knows he can make a living, and owns it, has riches and blessings no city man possesses. Contentment comes with assurance of shelter and the next day's meals. And contentment is earth's greatest blessing.

There is life, liberty and the pursuit of

happiness still to be had upon thousands of

acres in America," said Governor Osborn. "It

remains entirely possible for every man or

woman to be comfortable and happy in this

country if they know enough to spend a little

less than they earn," he concluded.

Those sentiments are so perfectly in accord

Agriculture-1933

## Improvement of

Savannah, Ga., News

June 14, 1933

## PROGRESSIVE FARMING IN HANCOCK COUNTY

Negro Log Cabin Buys Threshing Machine

SPARTA, June 13.—The negro log cabin community of Hancock county, under the leadership of Zack Hubert, has made another stride forward in promoting progressive farming by the co-operative purchase and operation of modern threshing machinery. The toes are good.

farmers of this community and throughout this whole section were encouraged to plant large acreages of wheat, oats and rye this year as the basis of a live-at-home, and a live stock program. The small grain crop is the best crop harvested for over twenty-five years.

Recently a large modern threshing machine was purchased co-operatively by the farmers of this community and is now operated in Hancock, Greene, Taliaferro and Warren counties. It is inter-racially operated, as there are colored and white people at work on the machinery.

The first week showed 1,000 bushels of wheat and 500 bushels of oats threshed. Beef and dairy cattle, poultry and hog production will get quite an impetus from the balanced system of farming carried on in these east central rural counties of Georgia, it is estimated.

Quitman, Ga., Free-Press

June 16, 1933

## Negro Farmers Report Progress

Several cotton blooms were brought to the Free Press June 7th. S. H. Lee.

The community tour began at Lem Flanders' place. The party met there to inspect a prosperous garden, a large store of home-canned goods, an electrically equipped laundry, a dairy and five fat hogs. From Flanders', the party went to Henry Land's farm and saw several sides and joints of meat still hanging in the owner's modern smokehouse, his home lighted by a carbide gas plant, his purebred spotted Poland-China hogs, and a fine crop of corn following Austrian winter peas.

At old Camp Wheeler the visitors saw some of the finest flower gardens cultivated by Negroes in the country. They walked through Isaiah Tharpe's deep-green corn growing on white sandy upland that had been planted previously in Austrian winter peas. Without the pre-planting of peas the land would not have made six bushels per acre. Lee es-

is the larva stage of a flying moth which deposits eggs on the corn stalk. Rotation of crops and deep fall plowing to destroy the borers which hide for the winter in corn stubble is advised.

Prof. Williamson said prospects in his community are very good considering everything. Cotton

prospects are good and there are few weevils. Melons are good and many farmers will have melons ready for market by or before June 20th. Hogs are good; sweet potato

term and is looking forward to a good year beginning with the coming of fall. All the teachers were re-elected.

Macon, Ga., Telegraph

August 7, 1933

## NEGROES INSPECT LIVE-AT-HOME RESULTS AMONG BIBB FARMERS

Prosperous Gardens, Prize Corn and Hogs and Fine Water-melons Seen on Community Tour Under Direction of Negro Home and Farm Agents

A party of Negro farmers went visiting in the Swift Creek community last week—each to see what the other had done in the past year through the "live-at-home" program sponsored by the Negro home and farm agents, Mayme L. Wesley and

timated. Where the peas had been planted, a crop of 30 bushels per acre is in prospect. Tharpe's potato patch was the best seen on the tour, and Rosa Tharpe, his wife, told the visitors she had sold \$57 worth of farm

flowers since Christmas.

New Bungalow Seen

W. A. Flagg's new bungalow drew comment from the party at his place. His watermelons were of prize quality. Each stop on the trip drew the attention of the visitors to some new point. Ed Glover and Charlie Harvey's sugar cane was fine and plenteous. Deacon Ben Collins had "the outstanding hogs of the entire community" one of his visitors found. The deacon killed 900 pounds of pork last year and expects to kill 1,500 pounds this winter.

In the home demonstration field, every house visited had stores of home-canned fruits and vegetables on the pantry shelves and good stocks growing in gardens. Eliza Ann Finney has about 150 quarts already preserved. Ella Parker had a large stock. Pearl Harvey, Anna Collins and Katie Stinson had outstanding flower gardens.

Total attendance on the trip was 60 persons. Thirteen houses and 15 farms were visited.

Georgia

Macon, Ga. News

August 7, 1933

## NEGROES LEARNING TO 'LIVE AT HOME'

Macon, Ga., Telegraph

August 25, 1933

### LET THE FARMER ALONE

To the Editor of The Telegraph:

I have been reading your editorials in The Telegraph, relative to both the N.R.A. and the betterment of the condition of the colored people, putting a dollar in the pocket of the colored people, etc.

I would like for you to explain through the columns of The Telegraph, why such inconsistency: 1st, Why insist on \$14 weekly wage for colored porters, and put the soft pedal on the Negro who picks cotton for 40c a hundred pounds. Two hundred pounds a day is a high estimate from sun up until sun down. That slowly but surely are finding the way to prosperity through the live-at-home plan and through planting of Austrian winter peas to be turned sun. The porter, as you have elaborated time under for improving tilth and fer-and again, ought to have \$14 a week, protected tility of the soil.

These facts were demonstrated in a tour last week by a group of Negro farmers, under guidance of Mayme L. Wesley and S. H. Lee, some colored labor who you do not want to come Bibb's Negro home and farm agents, under this code.

The tour was through the Swift Creek community, and at Lem Flanders' place the party saw a cotton for the luxurious salary of 25c a day, good garden, many cans of fruit and \$1.50 a week, and looked forward while working vegetables, a dairy and fat hogs: at Henry Land's place there were several sides and joints of meat from last winter still in the smokehouse, the family together, which is not less than six and a fine crop of corn following to eight for a cotton harvest, and earn money Austrian peas.

Isaiah Tharpe's corn, at old Camp Wheeler, was some of the finest seen. Growing on white sandy upland, it is estimated to yield 30 bushels per acre. Without turning under of Austrian peas preceding the crop, the yield probably would be about six bushels an acre. His wife, Rosa, has sold \$57 worth of flowers this spring and summer.

A new bungalow and fine water-melons drew attention at W. A. Flagg's place; the sugar cane of Ed Glover and Charlie Harvey was above the average; Deacon Ben Collins had the best hogs seen on the tour. In all, 15 farms were visited, about 60 persons.

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In short, it is taxing the great masses of people for the benefit of the classes who have not planted a hill of cotton with their own hands, chopped it out or picked a lock in the past 10 years. The Negro and the mule made the cotton. The Negro got 25c a day. No one accused the mule was overfed.

We also read that our government, through the high powered Secretary Wallace, is getting ready to distribute \$90,000,000 to the wheat growers of the Northwest and expect to rake in \$138,000,000 from an already over-burdened public. This is another illustration of taxing the masses for the comfort of the classes. Every household in this great United States uses wheat in some form every day, if they can get it, and there are multitudes of men in cities who have had no work for three or more years, and when he spends his dime for a loaf of bread he is paving his pro-

rata of the \$138,000,000 that goes to the wheat growers and the effort of getting it to him. Perry, Ga., Journal

October 5, 1933

We rejoiced when the farm board was abolished but it looks as though we jumped out of the skillet into the fire. Imagine a government advancing feed and seed money to raise a crop and then paying \$150,000,000 not to harvest it but destroy 1-3 of it and 10 million people out of work in this great United States.

There is not an over-production. It is an under-consumption and if our vast army of unemployed were given work they would soon show you that demand and supply would soon balance. Our government ought to get out of business. If the politicians would let the farmer alone he would work out his own salvation. The farther they lead the farmer, the worse off he is.

The farmer who used to be looked upon as the sturdy fellow who could work out his own salvation, the real salt of the earth, has listened to and been led by politicians, getting small doles one way or another until he has become almost spineless.

It is to be hoped when our Congress convenes that they recall the supreme and full power that was extended to the special few, take charge of the duties and responsibilities to which they were elected, retrace the steps of Jefferson, Cleveland and Wilson. This is all that will settle this feeling of unrest and save the Democratic party, whose motto used to read "Equal rights to all, special privileges to none."

You are very enthused in regard to boycotting merchants and manufacturers, if they fail to keep step with the code.

The word Boycott, does not belong to the, or in the American vocabulary or spirit. I think it first sprung up in about 1800 in Ireland and it seems to be a Hitler and Nazis favorite weapon of defense. Does Mr. Hugh S. Johnson want to pattern after and adopt their tactics. Cotton picking price has been reduced to 35c per 100 lbs.

Augusta, Ga.

J. C. EASTMAN.

The colored farmers and farm wives of Houston county had a most creditable exhibit last week at the Muse Motor Co. The exhibit showed the colored people had carried out the "Live-at-Home Program" which they sponsored for this year. 25 different farm products were included in the display which reflected great credit on the colored farmers and farm wives of this country.

Valdosta, Ga., Times

November 5, 1933

## NEGRO FARMERS DISPLAY CROPS

Products Raised by Lowndes  
Negro Farmers Being  
Displayed Here

### TO AWARD PRIZES

Food products raised by Lowndes county negro farmers are now being displayed in the Walton Building, 412 S. Ashley st J. B. Stevens, negro county agent announced Tuesday.

Editor's Note—There is no disagreement with Mr. Eastman's argument as to the terrible poverty of the cotton picker and farm hand, whether he is white or black. It is just as important—and perhaps more so—to get him up to a decent wage as it is for the city worker to get up. Both are human beings, and assets according with their earnings and spending. The plan of the president, however, is to make city business of all kinds pay fair wages, thus giving the city man the money with which to buy, and as he buys the farmer will get more for his products; and as the farmer gets more he will be able to pay his labor more. As the city labor increases in price, competition will increase price of country or farm labor. Farm help and domestic help were the only labor not included in the wage-raising program, because employers of this labor would not be able to meet the raise in wages, and therefore jobs would be abolished. It is hoped eventually to get every worker off the wage of the mule—just enough food to keep him alive and so he can work.

Stevens said Tuesday morning the display is being conducted for the purpose of informing the public of the progress the negro farmer is making toward maintaining a live-at-home program.

The public is invited to inspect the exhibits.

A number of prizes, contributed by merchants of the city, are being offered for the best products entered in the display.

The display will be conducted through Friday.

Agriculture - 1933

New Jersey

Improvement of

Youthful Pair

Influence

Operate Model

3-2-38

Farm In Erial

Philadelphia

Brother and Sister Forget

Depression in Environ-

ment Pa.

ERIAL, N. J.—A brother and sister live on a 33-acre farm here, far from the crowded cities, close to the good earth. They are the only colored people in this section of South Jersey but their hospitality extends far and wide.

Fourteen years ago, just after a world conflagration had died down, the strong and energetic sister, Miss Martha Nolan, and her keen eyed brother, Richard West, came here and settled. Together they cleared the ground about their home and planted many things. Nature favored them and they prospered.

FORGETS DEPRESSION IN ENVIRONMENT

The home they made into a place where comfort and informality reigned. Sitting in it today, the visitor discerns the expression of a woman's genius for making a home out of meagre materials. The stoves themselves, the old fashioned pictures on the wall, the tinted curtains, the comfortable chairs, the old fashioned oil lamps, food in plenty—these things impress in their simplicity. Somehow one forgets the depression in such an environment.

There are several hundred colored farms in South Jersey. In some respects this one is typical. In others it is quite exceptional. For out near the house are dog kennels housing thoroughbred hunting breeds worth hundreds of dollars and owned by wealthy families. Mr. West takes care of them. Out in the farm yard pigs, turkeys, chickens and horses can be seen. Hundreds of bunches of grapes are yielded from the vintage nearby during summer. Vegetables of all kinds are raised here. And in the distance the acreage spreads to the borders of surrounding forests of pine trees.

WAS OFFERED MOVIE CONTRACT

All this is typical of the average farm, but this particular farm is more famous than the others nearby. The vigorous and happy personality of Miss Nolan is the cause. She is a character so interesting that once she was offered contracts in the movies. She is a woman of the good earth. She works in the fields like a man, but she can

also entertain the traveller with the subtlety of a city hostess. And she numbers in her acquaintance names of colored and white that are known far and wide. She is kind and liberal and compassionate and she insists on giving fruits and vegetables and other products to all those who visit her.

Someone could live in this comfortable old house, could walk each day over its farmlands, could sleep bathed in the air which sweeps the countryside, and, if so inclined they might write a book. The name of the book would be "The Good Woman".

Agriculture - 1933

North Carolina.

## Improvement of

Walhalla, S. C. Courier  
May 10, 1933

## Negro Farmer is Awarded Certificate

(Greenville News.)

Frank A. Austin, negro farmer of near Simpsonville, has been awarded a certificate by Clemson College extension service. This entitles him to membership in the Hundred Bushel State Corn Club of South Carolina.

Austin was in the five-acre corn contest under the supervision of Clemson College extension service and B. T. Miller, negro farm agent of Greenville County.

Austin has adopted the practice recommended by the agent and his farm is self-supporting with food and feed stuff to supply the farm and to sell.

Hertford, N. C. News  
June 1, 1933

## Colored Farmers Awarded Prizes

### Winfall Contestants Take Honors In Corn Contest, Prizes For Which Were Given By The Chilean Nitrate Soda Company

The colored farmers of Perquimans County have again put themselves in the spotlight by winning in the three to one statewide corn contest. Out of the three prizes offered to colored adult farmers in the state, all were won by the farmers of Winfall High School, under the supervision of the agricultural teacher, K. A. Williams.

These prizes were given by the Educational Department of the Chilean Nitrate Soda Company in Raleigh.

The first prize went to Willie Billups, who had a yield of 97 bushels per acre. This prize was 1,200 pounds of nitrate of soda. The second prize, 900 pounds of fertilizer, went to George H.

Winslow, who had 74.4 bushels per acre, and the third prize, 400 pure bred Jersey calves this summer with which to start pure bred herds of dairy animals. H. C. Jones, local agent in Forsyth county, reports the yield of 74.4 bushels per acre. establishment of 3,160 gardens among the negro families of Winston-Salem.

The projects under way this year are looking particularly good now.

Salisbury, N. C. Post  
August 2, 1933

## NEGRO FARMERS IN N. C. GAINING BETTER STATUS

### Making Progress In Live-At-Home Activity.

College Station, Raleigh, Aug. 2—Negro farmers of North Carolina are making a sustained effort to grow a supply of food and feed crops this season and are meeting with commendable success despite the unfavorable season in some sections, reports John W. Mitchell, district farm agent of the State College extension service.

Mitchell reports increased flocks of poultry, more attention to swine, enlarged corn acreages, replanting of gardens and the conservation of all kinds of food and feed products. As one example, he cites the case of Walter Kenny of Trenton, who is conducting a demonstration in growing 40 acres of corn under the supervision of the Lenoir local agent. Kenny also has 50 pigs being fattened on his farm.

Local Agent D. D. Dupree has supplied 209 negro families with seed to replant gardens ruined by the drought and reports that these gardens are showing the effects of careful cultivation. A curb market for negro families of Chowan and Pasquotank counties has been established at Elizabeth City where 21 families sold \$32.27 worth of produce on the opening day.

Thomas and Adolphus Harris of Durham have customers who buy from 100 to 125 dozen eggs from them each week. The brothers maintain a flock of 200 white leghorn hens. Jasper Haith has learned that it pays to grow corn after lespezeza and his crop is said to be the best to be found among the negro farmers of Alamance county. Guilford

ported finding a farmer who had 45 hogs, 200 chickens, three cows, three acres of peanuts, four acres of soybeans, five acres in tobacco, 12 acres in cotton, and enough corn to feed the livestock.

"It is balanced farming of this kind that we are encouraging among our people in this State," Mitchell said "and we have been gratified at the progress being made. I recently had a report on 16 Negro farmers who plowed up a part of their cotton this summer. These men had planted cowpeas, soybeans, sweet corn and Irish potatoes on the land. The increase in home gardens has been phenomenal and wherever the dry weather of the summer allowed a surplus, the women have canned this material. In Pitt county 6,044 cans of fruits and vegetables were canned as a result of the garden campaign."

In the Piedmont section of the State, Negro farmers are gradually adding pure bred dairy cows to their farms and are growing the necessary forage and pasturage for feeding the animals. Mitchell said.

RALEIGH, N. C.

NEWS OBSERVER

AUG 15 1933  
COLORED FARMER MAY  
ACQUIRE AN AIRPLANE

Raleigh, N. C. Times  
October 7, 1933

## NEGRO FARM IS LAUNCHED

### Long-Time Program Looks Toward Better- ing Rural Conditions

North Carolina Negro farmers are working methodically towards a long time program of adding more live-stock to their farms, growing more crops that will improve the soil and adding more poultry flocks to supply food for the family and a source of cash, says John W. Mitchell, Negro district agent, of the State College Extension Service.

For the present, the local agents are encouraging the planting of fall gardens, the conservation of all food and feed produced this season and other emergency measures which will tend to make the Negro families more self-supporting in the rural districts this winter. One local agent, who recently surveyed conditions among his people in an eastern county, re-

Agriculture - 1933  
Improvement of

North Carolina

## Evening Classes Are Planned For Negro Farmers of County

To Hold Sessions at Belford, Dry Creek, Edwards And Thomasville Schools

A series of evening classes for Negro farmers in four sections of Montgomery county has been arranged by E. D. Sinclair, teacher of vocational agriculture at Peabody academy.

Classes began Monday night and will continue for a period of ten weeks. Sessions will be conducted at the Belford, Dry Creek, Edwards and Thomasville schools. The ten lessons will deal primarily with soil improvement projects. This marks the third year that these evening classes for Negroes have been held.

Rocky Mount, N. C., Telegrams  
Friday, February 3, 1933

## REPORTS INCREASE IN FARM INCOMES

How \$300 Grew Into \$48,000 Is Revealed in Report of Negro Agent

Winston-Salem, Feb. 3—How an investment of \$300 grew into a community income of over \$48,000 was revealed here this week in a report made by H. C. Jones, local Negro farm agent to Dean I. O. Schaub, head of the agricultural extension service at State college. Jones was appointed special garden agent to work among unemployed Negroes last spring. The extension service put \$150 into the work and the city of Winston-Salem appropriated the remaining \$150. Jones worked for about three months giving supervision to a gardening project among the Negro residents.

During that time, 2,068 gardens were arranged with adult Negroes and 3,230 among boys and girls. The average size of the vegetable plots was about

one-twentieth of an acre. Of all the plots planted, about 37 per cent were good gardens and 42 per cent medium. Twenty-one per cent were poor. An average of about eight different vegetables were planted in each garden. The cost per garden averaged \$6.16 and the average value of the vegetables produced in each garden amounted to \$15.

This left a profit of \$8.84 to the garden with a profit per acre of \$176.80. The total profit from the venture amounted to \$46,860.84 figuring the vegetables at the current market prices then existing.

C. R. Hudson of State college, in charge of extension work with Negroes, says this example of aiding helpless people to help themselves has proven of great value as an object lesson over North Carolina and will stimulate more work of this kind in 1933. Lumberton, N. C., Robesonian

Monday, March 20, 1933

### HILLY BRANCH (COLORED) FARMERS' CLUB MEETS.

Instructive Talks Made On Live Farm Topics.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Lumberton R. 3, March 18—An interesting as well as delightful meeting of the Hilly Branch Farmers' club was held Monday night, March 13. The following program was given: Open with singing; prayer by W. O. Thompson; remarks by V. J. Thompson, president of the club; solo by Bertha Thompson.

The following subjects were discussed: Need of More and Better Gardens—by A. G. Thompson; Value of a School in the Community—by J. B. Humphrey; "Processing on the Farm"—S. T. Brooks, local farm agent.

It was brought out in the first talk that a garden is a drug store to the family as well as a grocery store. Out in the second talk was a school in the community is like a corner stone or a light house on the ocean.

It was brought out in the third talk by the farm agent that milk cows, hogs, etc., are machines on the farm, as hay, corn, etc., are manufactured into milk, butter and meat, therefore the cows and hogs are as much or more valuable to the farmer than cotton.

The next meeting will be held on Monday night April 10, at 7:30.

Oxford, N. C. Ledger  
April 11, 1933

Elizabeth City, N. C. Advance  
May 31, 1933

## Colored Farmer In Vance Successful

Makes Good Living on Farm In Spite of Dry Weather and Inability to Market Fruits

It was a lucky day for Phil Reed, a Negro farmer in Vance county, when a local nurseryman decided a few years ago to quit the business and sell out of agriculture teacher, K. A. Williams.

Reed and his wife bought 50 peach trees, 50 apple trees, 6 pear trees, 6 Nitrate Soda Company at Raleigh, grape vines, 2 pecan trees and 2 English walnut trees for \$54. The pecan trees died and the English walnuts have not done well but the other trees are living and have been bearing fruit for about three years.

These prizes were given by the Educational Department of Chilean consisting of fertilizer.

The farmers who were winners in the contest were Willie Billups, first prize of 1,200 pounds of Nitrate Soda with a yield of 97 bags per acre. George H. Winslow, 900 pounds of Nitrate Soda with a yield of 74.5 bushels per acre. And James E. Newby 400 pounds of Nitrate Soda with a yield of 74.4 bushels per acre.

As a result, says Mrs. Hattie F. Plummer, Vance county home agent, Reed's wife this past summer canned 303 quarts of fruits and vegetables, made 14 gallons of preserves and jelly and saved two bushels of dried apples and one bushel of dried peaches.

The projects for this year are looking very good.

## PERQUIMANS NEGRO FARMERS AGAIN WIN MANY CORN PRIZES

Hertford, May 31.—The Perquimans colored farmers again put themselves in the state spotlight by winning out in a 3 to 1 statewide corn contest. Out of three prizes offered to the adult farmers in the state all were won by adult farmers of Winfall colored high school under the supervision

of agriculture teacher, K. A. Williams.

These prizes were given by the Educational Department of Chilean consisting of fertilizer.

The farmers who were winners in the contest were Willie Billups, first prize of 1,200 pounds of Nitrate Soda with a yield of 97 bags per acre. George H. Winslow, 900 pounds of Nitrate Soda with a yield of 74.5 bushels per acre. And James E. Newby 400 pounds of Nitrate Soda with a yield of 74.4 bushels per acre.

The projects for this year are looking very good.

# Raising Of Foodstuffs For Family And Livestock First Of 3 Important Commands To Ambitious Farmers

## J. W. Mitchell Says Quality Produce Is Next

(Staff Correspondence)

DURHAM, N. C.—The Negro farmer must first grow enough food to support himself and his family and feed enough for his livestock; he must next grow enough quality stuff for marketing; and finally he must ally himself with organizations which will enable him to sell readily and profitably.

These were the three conclusions at which John W. Mitchell, of Greensboro, a district farm agent of North Carolina, arrived at in an address before the Negro Business League which met in Durham August 23, 24, and 25.

An attempt to get the farmers of the state to abide by these three maxims of prosperity, Mr. Mitchell stated, has been the task of the extension department of the state for which he is an operative. "The live-at-home program" sponsored by ex-Governor O. Max Gardner, "duce" than Negroes engaged in other vocations.

Mr. Mitchell declared, after pointing out its soundness, had these three objectives as its goal:

### Family Food Supply

As an annual budget for a family calculated in food stuffs, Mr. Mitchell gave the following for is the only thing in which I have each member of the family group an equal chance. I have never seen any discrimination because of being a Negro. It comes of lard, 31 pounds of fowl, 31 doz. because of quality. It is not a quart of milk daily.

"In canned foods, the quota fail. The merchant is looking for should be, 2 quarts of beets, 2 quarts of carrots, 1 quart of corn, want quality. He seldom sees the 1 quart of English peas, 2 quarts one who grew the products. It of kraut, 1 quart of lima beans, really makes no difference with 1 quart of okra, 5 pints of soup him; he knows what he wants, that mixture, 5 quarts of string beans, is quality first and last."

### Examples Cited

Among many other examples cited in this regard were the following:

"From the Negro Farm agent of Pasquotank County, in reporting on the Curb Market operated for Negro farm women in Elizabeth City, the community, writes: 'The Curb Market women have return of \$1,930 to the members of regular customers among the best people of both races. J. B. Flora, mayor of the city, has spent \$2 to \$3 at a time on the Curb Mar-

ket with the Negro farm women. Color is no barrier. Quality products and reasonable prices are the requirements.'

"In Chadbourne, Columbus County, one of the largest strawberry markets in the world, Willis Jackson, a very successful farmer has won the reputation of producing choice strawberries of quality. He not only sells his entire crop readily but a large part of his crop at a premium because of the quality of his berries.

### Plans An Increase

"A. J. Jeffries, Route No. 1, Mebane, N. C., was convinced last year that poultry is a paying proposition. He plans to go at it on a larger scale this year. Local Agent J. W. Jeffries, of Alamance County, is assisting him in purchasing Rhode Island Red roosters for breeding. Last year he sold \$183.59 worth of poultry, and \$344.80 worth of eggs. He sold \$209.70 worth of butter, \$24.60 worth of pork, veal calves amounted to \$47 and fruits and vegetables \$224.64.

"He kept five cows, two horses, 200 hens, and fed a family of thirteen at what he estimated at a cost of \$827.50. The total amount of produce sold from his entire farm was \$1034.24.

"Aside from one ton of hay, his poultry and dairy feed cost him \$300. When this report was made in January, Jeffries had not completed his tobacco crop, but he estimated it to bring around \$700 and his produce on the Durham curb market will amount to considerably more than his chief money crop, tobacco."

### Cooperative Marketing Given As Third Essential

#### Cooperative Marketing

In the discussion of the last of his three points—that of cooperative marketing—Mr. Mitchell resorted again to concrete illustrations as the most forceful method of showing their worth.

"In the Rougemont community," he said, "they have a club known as the Red Mountain Farmers Club that was organized in 1931. Members of this club grow and raise everything that one would expect on an ordinary farm. They have a man to collect the produce and take it to market for the members in that community. This person is Thomas Harris, Rougemont No. 1. He has built up a wonderful trade in the city of Durham which is 21 miles from the community. The following report is what he made by him recently:

Chicken, 4250 pounds, \$819.50; butter, 284 pounds, \$83.; eggs, 2700 dozen the Curb Market operated for Negro farm women in Elizabeth City, the community, \$372, making a total net \$656.20; other produce sold in the best people of both races. J. B. Flora, mayor of the city, has spent \$2 to \$3 at a time on the Curb Market, found sale for all

the poultry his farmers desired to sell. These poultry products are sold at the poultry car door and the Negro farmers receive the same price for their poultry as the other man.

"McKay McNeill, Negro farm agent of Johnston county, has conducted successful hog-feeding demonstrations with his farmers and has shipped in car lots, receiving the same price per pound as other shippers.

"M. C. Burke, a Negro vocational agricultural teacher organized a wholesale truck market in Wayne county among a group of his Negro farm students and sold \$2,000 worth of string beans in one season to northern buyers that came on his market and bought the beans and transported them on trucks.

### Agricultural Adjustment Act Discussed

"We as a race may be faced with the grave question as to whether the National Recovery Act, the NRA will help us or prove an obstacle, whether Negro workers will be replaced with white workers because white employers refuse to pay higher wages to Negro workers. But so far as I have been able to observe the Agricultural Adjustment Act is proving helpful to Negro farmers. In the recent cotton reduction campaign Negro farmers were not discriminated against. I believe that acreage reduction of cotton and tobacco will give enterprising Negro farmers a better opportunity to buy farms at an advantage.

"Without a doubt Negroes owning their own farms will help in solving and regulating market problems for themselves more than anything else. On his own farm he can plan and carry out his self-supporting program without interference. The Government and other agencies that are attempting to give relief to the farmer can deal with the farmers, tilling his own land with less complication.

### Believes In A. A. A.

"I have the faith in the agricultural administrative act in that it will help the Negro farmer in marketing his products. I look upon the act as a means to hasten on the time that Henry Grady referred to as the New South.

"When every farmer in the south shall eat bread from his own field and meat from his own pastures, and disturbed by no creditors, and enslaved by no debt, shall sit amid his teeming gardens, and orchards, and vineyards, and dairies and barnyards, pitching his crop to his own wisdom, and growing them in independence, making cotton his surplus crop, and selling it in his time, and in his own chosen market, and not at a master's bidding—getting his pay in cash and not in a receipted mortgage that discharges his debt, but does not restore his freedom—then shall he be breaking the fullness of our day."



W. MITCHELL

Agriculture-1933

Improvement

NEWS

Marshall, Tex.

JAN 13 1933

"GO THOU AND DO LIKEWISE"

Prof. H. B. Pemberton, principal of the Central (colored) high school, has sent the Morning News a letter that has a lesson that must be heeded by members of his race or dire disaster will follow. While the lesson taught does not confine its meaning to the negro farmers of this county alone, yet it should especially apply to the hundreds of negro tenants, many of them crowding the Red Cross headquarters from day to day. There are white farmers who would also do well to emulate what this colored woman has done. Before we print the letter we want to say some blunt things.

There is very little excuse for any family on a farm in this county failing to raise sufficient food to maintain the family during the year. Our soil will produce in abundance but it needs elbow grease. It is true that the short crop of cotton and the low price this year has cut deeply into the income of our farmers, but this is no reason why there should not be food a plenty, and this can be demonstrated by what this woman with her children has accomplished. We fear there is a feeling among a lot of the provident and indolent ones that the Red Cross or the government will provide food, so why work to obtain it.

Persons entertaining such ideas will find they are mistaken and they will find it out next winter. The government had on hands a lot of wheat that it couldn't sell and it was ground into flour for the needy. It was not intended that the people on the farms would rush to receive this free flour, but that it would help feed the unemployed in the cities. Any farmer that wants to work can feed his family in this county and he will have to do it the coming year for the government wheat is well nigh exhausted.

Unless the tenant farmer gets busy the coming year and raises, and takes care after raising, of food for his family he is going to see that family hungry. This colored woman, Delia Malone, has set an example that must be followed and this should be understood here and now. Read this letter and "go thou and do likewise."

Texas  
ored county agent from one of his farm club women. I think it is quite interesting. Her name is Delia Malone. She has two children under age and lives about 6 miles on Port Caddo road. Here is a list of her sales for 1932 carefully kept:

Hens .....	\$14.35
Broilers .....	\$ 6.65
Sweet Milk .....	\$12.20
Butter Milk .....	\$89.80
Butter .....	\$80.30
Turnip Greens .....	\$19.87
Spinach .....	\$ 4.45
Eggs .....	\$ 9.35
Peanuts .....	\$13.20
Sweet Potatoes .....	\$19.65
Kershaws .....	\$ 6.45
Gum Timber .....	\$ 5.98
TOTAL .....	\$282.25

EXPENSES

Cow Feed .....	\$26.80
Chicken Feed .....	\$ 1.85
Sack of seed of Sudan Grass, Sorghum and Hegari	\$ 3.85
TOTAL .....	\$32.50

She has five cows, a garden, chickens and hogs. She gathered 5 loads of peanuts and hay, 9 loads of sorghum, 90 bushels of corn, 93 bushels of sweet potatoes, 1709 pounds of peas, 10 gallons of syrup and four bales of cotton. Expenses for the latter total \$18.40. She has a nice home—land terraced, well cultivated, winter oats up now. She has a regular market for her produce. She has enough food and feed stuffs to last until next May. She has two good mules, a wagon and a good supply of farm tools. She killed a beef recently that dressed above 800 pounds. She pickled the meat. All of her out houses are clean and sanitary. I think this is a fine example.

H. B. PEMBERTON.

The above is the most eloquent exposition of what can and must be done that we can conceive. We thank County Agent Roland and Prof. Pemberton for the opportunity of giving it to the tenant and small farm owners of the county.

Editor Morning News:

Here is report I received from F. D. Roland the col-